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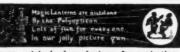
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V. ROSSETTI'S INFLUENCE IN ART. By J. COMYNS CARR.
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IV. THE DORMOUSE AT HOME. By Grant Allen.

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I. MARTIN LUTHER. Engraved by Theodor Knesing from the picture by Lucas Cranach in the Pinacothek at Munich. Frontispiece.

II. LUTHER. James Sime. Illustrations: The "Luther Haus" at Eisenach. Drawn by F. Knab—Luther's Study in the Wartburg. Engraved by T. Knesing—Erasmus, from the engraving by Albert Durer—Melanchthon, from the engraving by Albert Durer. Engraved by J. D. Cooper—The Wartburg from the West, from a drawing by F. Knab—Courtyard in the Wartburg from the North. Drawn by F. Knab. Engraved by T. Knesing—Luther, from the engraving by Lucas Cranach. Engraved by J. D. Cooper.

III. SOME FORGOTEN ETCHERS. WALTER ARMSTRONG Illustrations: A Norfolk River, by John Crome—Bridge at Chester, by George Cuitt—Old Houses at Chester, by George Cuitt—Mousehold Health, by John Crome. Engraved by J. D. Cooper—A Country Lane, by John Constable, R.A. Engraved by O. Jahyer—A Landscape Study, by Andrew Geddes—The Pope and the Goldsmith, by Sir David Wilkie, R. A. Engraved by J. D. Cooper—The Lost Receipt, by Sir David Wilkie, R. A.—Engraved by J. D. Cooper—The Lost Receipt, by Sir David Wilkie, R. A.—Mrs. Geddes, by Andrew Geddes. Engraved by J. Quartly.

IV. CORN COCKLES. Grant Allen. Illustrations by Alfred Parsons: A Cornfield—Red Campion in Hedge—The Corn Cockle. Engraved by J. D. Cooper—Ragged Robin—Stitchwort—Corn Flower. Engraved by O. Lacour—Hard-Head Flowers—The Field Thistle. Engraved by J. D. Cooper.

V. THE STORY OF A COURTSHIP. STANLEY J. WEYMAN.

VI. THE NEW HERO. Theodore Watts.

VII. THE ARMORER'S PRENTICES. Chapters VI., VII. (to be continued), Charlotte M. Yonge.

ORNAMENTS, INITIAL LETTERS, &c.

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"If it continues as it has begun will supply a quantity and quality of superior literary and artistic substance, at a price—fifteen cents a copy—which should give it the widest and most immediate popularity. As for ourselves, we shall look for it each month as eagerly, almost, as for its more elaborate and ambitious American rivals, with which, all things considered, it compares, in some respects, even more than favorably."—Christian Union.

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# The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1883.

# The Week.

In his report of last year, the Comptroller of the Currency said that it would be better to abandon the national-banking system altogether than to attempt to carry it along without bond-security for the circulating notes. This view he supported by strong but not wholly conclusive arguments, the most weighty being his belief that the existing system had so entirely won the confidence of the people, through the absolute security of the notes, that the door to endless fraud and swindling would be thrown open if the bond security were withdrawn. He did not believe that the banks would ever agree to guarantee each other's notes, and he could not imagine any other effective insurance fund to take the place of the existing security of Government bonds. He failed, however, to point out what would come after the bond security should have disappeared through the extinction of the national debt, and he fails to do so now, although he hints that the thing most likely to happen will be the revival of the old State-bank system through the repeal of the 10 per cent, tax on their circulation. In his present report he says: "Other propositions have been suggested in order to postpone or prevent the contraction of nationalbank circulation, but the Comptroller considers that, so long as there is a sufficient amount of United States bonds outstanding, legislation should be so shaped as to continue them in use as a basis for national-bank circulation."

With this postulate everybody except the Greenbackers pure and simple will agree. The legislation which he suggests is to repeal the 1 per cent, tax on national-bank circulation, and to allow the issue of notes to the extent of 90 per cent. of the market value of the bonds deposited, instead of 90 per cent. of their par value. These measures, he says, would suffice to maintain the circulation at its present aggregate, by enabling the banks to buy the 4 per cent. bonds at the present high premium, or even a higher one, to take the place of the 3s, which are now in course of extinction. How long a time the circulation could be maintained would depend upon the policy to be adopted by the Government with reference to the 4 and 4½ per cent. bonds, after the 3s are all called in. Some people assume that when the 3 per cents are all paid, the Government must fold its hands and wait till the year 1891, when the 41 per cents mature. This idea garnishes Mr. Blaine's project for turning over the proceeds of the whiskey tax to the several States. Mr. Knox does not overlook the likelihood that the Government will have surplus revenues after the 3 per cent, bonds are paid off, and that it will make use of them by advertising for bids for the sale of bonds to the Treasury, as was done by Secretaries Boutwell and Bristow when there were no bonds upon which the option had matured

Therefore Mr. Knox hazards no opinion as to the length of time that the national bank circulation might be maintained if the curative measures which he recommends were adopted. He barely suggests that the time for paying the principal of the public debt might be postponed, but he evidently does not have sufficient confidence in the plan to embody it in a formal recommendation.

The report of the Postmaster-General on the postal service contains several recommendations, the most important of which are that the unit of letter postage should be made one ounce instead of a half-ounce, and that the rate on transient newspapers and periodicals should be one cent for every three ounces. instead of one cent for every two ounces as at present. The reasons in favor of these changes which Mr. Gresham gives are simple and strong. He argues that the raising of the unit for letter postage will not make much difference in the receipts, since the greater part of all letters mailed weigh less than half an ounce each. Less than six per cent. of them weigh more than that, and require double postage. With the rate fixed at two cents an ounce both the public and the post-office would be saved a vast amount of trouble. The same thing would be true of the change in the newspaper rate. Mr. Gresham says truly that the current impression is that one cent per copy is the uniform rate for newspapers, although many weigh more than that; and that persons who deposit those weighing more with only a cent postage stamp attached, complain because they are not forwarded. The reduced rate would bring all newspapers within the onecent limit and remove all chance for misunderstanding. With these minor reductions the Postmaster-General thinks the Department should rest for the present. He estimates that the deficiency in the Department for the coming fiscal year will be nearly \$3,000,000, owing mainly to the reduction in letter postage. For this and other reasons he opposes the establishment of the one-cent rate for drop letters in cities. On the question of a postal telegraph, he maintains the authority of Congress to assume control of the business, but does not think the evils complained of in the present management are sufficiently grievous to call for Congressional legislation.

The comments of the press of the country upon Mr. Blaine's whiskey-tax scheme show unmistakably that he has overshot his mark, as usual. Instead of impressing the country with his statesmanship, he has merely strengthened the prevalent suspicion of his sensational unsoundness upon all public questions. The public recognize in this tax-distribution scheme the same dangerous "brilliancy" which was shown in the South American diplomatic manœuvres, and they do not like it any better now than they did then. The principal "slogan" of the letter, "Is it wiser to tax whiskey than to tax farms and homesteads and shops?" is, we are happy to

notice, taken for precisely what it is—a piece of clap-trap pure and simple. When the Wharton Barker plan was first broached, its advocates made little concealment of their belief that it would become popular chiefly because the ignorant masses would look upon it as an escape from taxation. In other words, it was based on the supposition that the people are mostly fools. Mr. Blaine's plan was merely a modification of Mr. Barker's, and was conceived in the same spirit. It is a most encouraging fact that both plans have met with instant condemnation and failure.

A prospectus for an International Bi-Metallic Monetary Association has been issued, The call is signed by General Grant, Mayor Edson, and thirty-eight other gentlemen, most of whom will be recognized as eminent . in their respective vocations and in society, None of them, however, have acquired any reputation as economists or made any pretensions to distinction in that way, principal object of the association is to establish the free coinage of silver on the same terms as gold, by international arrangements, and to co-operate with associations abroad having the same object in view. This is the proper course to be pursued by those who think that bi-metallism is practicable and useful. Bi-metallism by one country is an acknowledged absurdity. and has been condemned by all the bi-metallist authorities in Europe and America. "Birds of a feather flock together," said Lord Dundreary, "for how could one bird flock all alone by himself?" The mistaken attempt of the United States to "flock all alone by itself." furnishes a good starting point for the labors of the International Bi-Metallic Monetary Association. The first step to be taken to secure their end is to stop our coinage of two millions per month, so that the pressure of this amount of silver may fall upon foreign countries as well as upon ourselves. Of course England and Germany will do nothing so long as we voluntarily assume the burden of carrying all the surplus silver produced in the world. We trust that General Grant, Mayor Edson, and their associates will look sharply into this matter, and read carefully the writings of Cernuschi, Horton, Walker, and other bi-metallists, at home and abroad, who have borne valuable testimony upon this point,

Ohio politics are full of surprises this year. It has been generally believed that Senator Pendleton had small chance for reflection, but the latest advices from the State are to the effect that the combinations against him have fallen through, and that he has more strength than any other candidate. It was thought that his solitary position as the only active civil-service reformer in his party had retired him permanently from politics, but the hostility toward him on that question seems to have been much more bitter among the Democratic politicians and newspapers than among the

people. His return to the Senate in January would give his party, what it has not now, something to "point to," as evidence of a friendliness toward civil-service reform. The claim could then be made that the author of the present Civil-Service Reform Law had been "endorsed" by his party.

The literature of the "Mormon problem" has been enriched by several new contributions during the past few days. The Rev. Dr. Armitage has produced the suggestion that polygamy is probably a species of "constru ctiveslavery," and therefore obnoxious to the Thirteenth Amendment. Rosecrans, who is a member of Congress, takes a different view, and has prepared and published a constitutional amendment prohibiting polygamy throughout the United States, and giving Congress power to deal with it, which he will introduce into Congress at the earliest possible moment. There seems no reason why this should not be adopted at once, as polygamy is already an indictable offence, punishable by fine and imprisonment (U. S. R. S., sec. 5,352). The General's idea must be that a Mormon who would not shrink from polygamy as a crime, would quake with horror at the idea of having unconstitutional wives, and at once abandon the practice. It looks as if all discussions of the Mormon problem ought to be prohibited by law, unless accompanied by a careful statement under oath of what those who undertake to solve it believe the problem to be. "Troops" might be used against any man or body of men found thinking in violation of this rule.

The "National League for the Suppression of Polygamy," organized in October last, promises, it is said, to become large and powerful. It is described as a secret, oath-bound society, the members being pledged not to disclose its proceedings, nor to make public the names of the members. The only reason that we can imagine why anti-polygamists should get up secret organizations is because they know that their arguments or proposals are likely to be such as will not bear examination. The day for a crusade against the Mormons seems to be over, for a conflict between them and the Gentiles could only result in Utah being held temporarily by troops, who would restore order; but, after order is restored, all the wives will come out from the closets and from under the beds again, and polygamy will go on just as before. In fact, with troops in the Territory, the Mormons would probably be safer than they are now.

The divorce problem was discussed by the Congregational Club on Monday night, and the Rev. Mr. Dike, who has devoted a great deal of time and attention to it, delivered an address. He recommended changes in the State divorce laws, all of which would no doubt do good, but none of which would insure a permanently uniform systemall over the country. It is this fact which makes the discussion of the problem look sometimes as if it was carried on for its own sake, or as if it were thought that a solu-

tion of it might come to some one in the course of the discussion by inspiration. The Rev. Dr. Ingersoll, who is feeling about for a solution of this kind, suggested that "the craze for divorce ran in channels, like malarial fever, and, like that disease, it would die out in time."

Mr. Arnold's lecture on Emerson appears to have been a great success, and is itself the most complete refutation that could have appeared of the silly story that it was some "old" thing which he had brought over to "unload" on the American literary market. It is, in fact, a beautiful and delicate piece of criticism, such as no other Englishman or American, save perhaps Lowell, could have produced, in the course of which he succeeded in doing what few critics attempt and still fewer achieve-we mean, in giving a just estimate of his subject's place in philosophy and literature (necessarily a lower one than that which most of his admirers would insist upon) to an audience made up in large part of these admirers, and yet so as to please and delight everybody who heard him. comparison of Emerson to Marcus Aurelius, as not so much a philosophy-maker as "the friend and aider of those who would live in the spirit," was a singularly happy critical suggestion.

The success of Mr. Cable's readings has drawn attention to the old question of a Southern literature and the literary differences between the new and the old South. Before the war the attempts of the South to produce a literature were failures, though it had apparently a good many qualifications for the task-a very peculiar civilization and institutions, a population ardently patriotic, and an educated class possessed of considerable refinement and leisure. It was badly handicapped by the fact that it could not tolerate any accurate description of itself, and a love of this sort of description is essential to any genuine modern literary growth. The thing that Southerners were most thoroughly agreed upon was that the South should not be seen as it actually was, and this led them to develop tastes in literature the exact opposite of those of the world around them. While Europe and the North were becoming more and more realistic, they fondly clung to romance. As Mark Twain somewhere puts it, they were led into secession and their consequent ruin by their blind affection for Sir Walter Scott. Southern novelists at least got from Scott notions of chivalry and romance which they misapplied as fatally as Southern politicians did their ideas of patriarchal institutions. The war swept all this away, and, as might have been expected, one of its most natural and interesting results is the appearance of new writers, who, like Mr. Cable and Mr. Harris, have completely broken with Scott and the middle ages, and are trying to make known to the world the real South.

The discussion over the rules of foot-ball at Harvard will probably result in the adoption of more stringent regulations than ever, and the fact seems to be that the game as now played

is so violent, at best, that nothing but rigid supervision will prevent serious injury or loss of life. The distinction between legitimateplay and "throttling," etc., though perfectly plain on paper and before the game begins, is sure to be lost sight of in the excitement of a rough-and-tumble struggle over the ball. The class foot-ball games at Harvard twentyfive years ago were simple fights, in which nearly everything short of gouging was legitimate, and they were in consequence peremptorily forbidden by the Faculty, and the game of foot-ball was practically banished there till the period of the great athletic revival after the war again brought it into fashion. The Harvard-Yale match, on Thanksgivingday, which seems to have furnished a good day's sport, was regulated in advanceby the Faculty. The old idea of the American professor that the athletic sports of undergraduates were something beneath his dignity, and with which he had nothing to do, is fast dying out, and the wholesome feeling of a common interest in the matter taking its place.

The suggestion that American girls of note should place their photographs on sale is one which certainly deserves consideration. The arguments in favor of it are, first, that it would add to their incomes and thus enable them to dress more extravagantly; second, that some of the English professional beauties are said to derive a revenue from this source; and third, that there is no question that actresses and prima-donnas do it. Against it, it is urged that hawking your face about the streets is not a nice thing for refined girls to do. This objection will only have weight, however, in refined families, and, as we have frequently pointed out in these columns, the great advance made by society in our time has been in the steps taken to recognize the claims of the vulgar. The refined have had the making and interpretation of the social code in their own hands for a long time; but the turn of the other side has come at last.

The white citizens of Copiah County, Mississippi, who were recently obliged to kill "Prent" Matthews, their sheriff, for voting, or attempting to vote, have held a mass meeting, and passed resolutions on the subject, but they seem to take it for granted that it was generally understood outside of Copiah County that "Prent" would have to be destroyed if he came to the polls; for the resolutions, instead of mentioning the facts which made the taking of his life necessary, mainly consist of a warning to his family that, if they do not "keep out of politics in Copiah County," they will be killed too. A committee was appointed, as is the custom in the case of obituary resolutions, to present a copy of the warning to the brothers and sons of the murdered man, and the Vicksburg Herald declares that the murder of Matthews is "not an event calculated to excite any regret outside of his immediate family circle." The main reason given by the Herald for the murder is that Matthews "kept Copiah County in a muss," or, in other words, made himself disagreeable to his neighbors. "The shedding of human blood is always to be deplored," is the sentiment, it is hardly necessary to add, with which the *Herald* introduces its account. This sentence is, we believe, kept standing in every well-regulated Southern newspaper office.

A vindication of Governor Begole of Michigan has appeared. He was accused of having solicited passes for himself and Mrs. Begole from a railroad company, while recommending the company not to let the members of the Legislature have any. His friends now say this is a slander or "a deliberate lie," started by what they call the "Detroit Smut Mill," commonly known as the Post and Tribune. They say that the pass he asked for was due to him by the railroad company under an agreement with his firm for the transportation of freight, and that Mrs. Begole's was part of the same transaction, and was to be charged for in his current account with the company, and that he never used his ticket book for public business.

O'Donnell's conviction is a most satisfactory close to the horrible Phænix Park tragedy. Five persons have been executed for it, and the informer whose testimony brought them to justice, and who was undoubtedly the worst of the lot, and whose escape from the gallows was a disappointment to all civilized men, has been murdered in cold blood. His murderer has now been convicted and will be hanged in the course of the present month, so that the full measure of justice will then have been meted out to all concerned. One deplorable result, however, will remain. The whole affair has brought discredit on the Irish people, which we fear will not be effaced for many a day, not so much because of the original murders-for conspirators as ferocious and senseless as the Phonix Park ruffians could be found in any country-but because of the sympathy with which they have met from Irishmen all over the world. It is this, of all things connected with the crime, which has disgusted the civilized world, and in its eyes lowered the Irish people in the scale of civilization. We doubt if there ever was a good cause which met so little of the sympathy of humane and enlightened men everywhere to-day as the Irish cause, and this, almost wholly, because of the brutal and anti-social doctrines preached by so many of its advocates, and the base character of the instruments they are willing to use. No readiness to shed blood profusely in any cause degrades people in the eves of mankind, as long as it is shed in open fight; but those who make heroes and martyrs of skulking assassins, cannot escape the scorn or detestation of the best portion of the buman race.

In this country \$47,000 were raised for O'Donnell's defence, but it must all have gone in counsel fees, for he called only one witness, and the despatch of General Pryor was probably the most expensive item in the account. What good General Pryor did beyond making whispered suggestions in court, does not clearly appear. He now says that he did not apply to be heard and have his application formally refused, because he was advised by counsel that it would prejudice the prisoner

in the eyes of the jury if an American, employed by Irish-Americans to come over here and defend him, made any appearance in the case at all. To find this out, however, it was hardly necessary to go to England in person and take the opinion of counsel. It might easily have been discovered by writing to England, and getting an answer, a the small expense of ten cents, by any one who did not possess the elementary knowledge of the practice of English courts, and of the organization of the English bar, which any American lawyer ought to possess. The truth is, however, that the subscribers to the fund really sent him over, not so much to defend the prisoner as to do the very thing which he now excuses himself for not doing; that is, getting up and making a row in the court-room. The probabilities are that the value of his services would have been greatly enhanced, in their eyes, if he had sworn at the Judge, and had himself dragged out, neck and heels, by the police.

The quiet and almost unobserved retirement of Sir H. B. W. Brand from the Speakership of the House of Commons, compared with the excitement attending a corresponding change in the Speakership at Washington, furnishes a striking illustration of the difference in the position of the Speaker in the two countries. In England the office has now been for a long time a judicial one, almost as judicial as any judgeship in the courts of law. The Speaker appoints no committees. and, in fact, has no opportunity of favoring either one party or the other, except in allowing or not allowing his eye to be "caught" by would-be orators. Even as to this, however, he is furnished with a principle of selection by the custom of the House, which puts the leading men of both parties in seats near the Chair. The leading requisites of a Speaker are, therefore, easily agreed on both by Liberals and Conservatives. He is seldom, if ever, a great statesman or politician: neither party can spare such a man from the floor of the House. But he must be what Mr. Gladstone calls "a great geutleman"-that is, a man of independent fortune, and of high character and social position-and be gifted with tact, ease, polished man-ners, and readiness both of mind and speech. A man who has these, whatever his political antecedents, is sure of permanence in the place. Sir Henry Brand was for many years the Liberal "whip," that is, the gentleman who performs the onerous and unpaid duty of keeping the supporters of the ministry in good humor, by watching their whims and weak points, and seeing that they are present at divisions on important occasions. Nevertheless he was elected Speaker without opposition in 1872, and again when the Conservatives came into power two years later.

In the November Fortnightly, Mr. Charles Waring examines the Suez Canal question in an ably written article, and reaches the conclusion that England ought to buy the canal and enlarge or duplicate it, and then throw it open to the free navigation of the world. Such a consummation would undoubtedly solve all doubts and disputes

which now disturb the ship owners and the Canal Company, and would furnish an example of munificence and magnanimity of the most refreshing character. Mr. Waring believes that M. de Lesseps would sell out at some price, and that British commerce would gain all that the British Government would lose by the operation, and much more. He adds that the Government and British shareholders together own more than one-half of the property now, and that the acquisition of the remainder would not entail an excessive charge on the Treasury. The whole number of shares in the company is 400,000, of which the English Government owns 172,000. The latest quotation of the stock on the Paris Bourse was 2,175 francs per share. At this price, the cost of the 228,000 shares not owned by the Government would be about £20,000,000 sterling. Counting the Government shares at the same price (although they do not participate in dividends till the year 1894), the proposed donation to the world would amount to £32,000,000, not to mention the cost of the new canal, estimated at £8,000,000 more. Four fifths of the result ing gain would be reaped by British merchant, and ship-owners, and one fifth by those of, the Continent. The charges for transit should be sufficient merely to keep the canal in repair and pay the cost of administration.

M. de Lesseps's conferences with the shipowners and commercial bodies of London, Liverpool, and Manchester have apparently not brought about an agreement of views. It appears, also, that there has been a hitch in the councils of the Khedive on the subject of the new canal, and that difficulties have arisen in the money market as a consequence of the political embarrassment in Egypt. In short, M. de Lesseps is in the situation of a private individual having to deal with three governments, yet having none of the attributes and powers of a government to enforce his own views. His claims rest upon moral grounds altogether, and here unquestionably he finds his only effectual support in the British Government. If this support were withdrawn the Egyptian authorities would sell a concession for a new canal over his head in a twinkling, and pocket the proceeds with a grin, France might protest, but she would never go to war to prevent the opening of a new canal. In such a situation, M. de Lesseps will probably find reasons for lowering his demands. The point in dispute between himself and the British ship-owners has been narrowed substantially to the question of dividends on the canal shares. The ship-owners are willing to concede 20 per cent. per annum-all reccipts in excess of this amount to be applied to the reduction of tolls. M. de Lesseps contends for a division of the excess between the shareholders and the shippers, but will surely yield in the end, seeing that a new canal must be had, either with his consent or in spite of his opposition. Under a less conscientious government than that of Mr. Gladstone, his claims would have been brushed aside the day after Tel-el-Kebir, and a new canal would now be in course of construction under the protection of British guns.

#### MR. CARLISLE'S ELECTION.

THE election of Mr. Carlisle as Speaker of the House of Representatives is the outward sign of a reaction against the existing tariff which has been gathering force for some years, and of which the Tariff Commission of last year was itself a symptom. The Commission was an acknowledgment by the Republican party that the protective policy had been pushed to unjustifiable and unbearable limits. It was composed, in its personnel, of chiefs of the protectionist school and representatives of the principal protected trades. Their report began with an admission that the time had come for a relaxation of the severe restrictions put upon foreign trade, but when they came to details they failed to justify their own conclusions. The reduction of duties which they proposed was too faint to do more than set the country thinking, while in some directions they recommended an increase of duties which caused genuine alarm and roused stubborn and effectual resistance. Regarded as an educational measure, the Tariff Commission was extremely useful. Mr. Carlisle's success must be in part attributed to it, but both the Commission and the Speakership contest are the result and outgrowth of a public conviction that we have had too much tariff, and that the present bad state of trade is largely the consequence of it. The recent great meeting at Cooper Institute in favor of revenue reform is another sign of the strength of this movement. Five years or even three years ago it would have been impossible to bring together one-half the number of people who attended this meeting, and gave their assent to the principles which it was called to promote.

We do not look for any immediate radical changes to follow Mr. Carlisle's elevation to the Speaker's chair. His election signifies the direction in which the thought of the country has turned in respect of its tariff policy, rather than any determination or desire to knock away at once the crutches upon which so many of our crippled industries are hobbling. No revenue reformer, if a carte blanche had been given him to write a tariff upon, two years ago, would have proposed a scale of duties which would compel the steel-rail manufacturers to sell at \$35 per ton, as they are now doing. Still less would he have proposed a policy which looked to shutting up three-fifths of the iron furnaces of the country. These interesting results, which have been brought about under the reign of the protectionists, prove that the tariff bas done its best or its worst for us, and that nothing which the revenue reformers ever threatened can be so harmful as the condition we have actually reached after twenty years of extravagantly high duties.

The Philadelphia newspapers take a view of Mr. Carlisle's election which people in other cities and States can scarcely comprehend. They assume that the country is so enamoied of a scale of duties averaging 47 per cent., that the mere suggestion of a change, however small and however adjusted, will defeat the Democratic party next year. "The result," says the Press, "simplifies the issue between the two parties, and makes a straight, direct fight on the command

ing issue of protection." The Times is even more extravagant. It says that the only chance the Democrats have is to nominate Mr. Randall for President. Philadelphia seems to be a sort of blue grotto where there is no diversity of color, but everything wears the same cerulean tint. Protection, in the view of the Press, is evidently the highest rate of duty on any article which anybody desires to have. Mr. Carlisle's supporters might easily say that they think \$18 per ton on steel rails too high, when the domestic article is selling at \$35 and the lowest price abroad is \$23. They might argue that a duty on lumber which sets a premium on the destruction of our narrowing forest area is unjustifiable and ought to be at once repealed. They might argue in the same way concerning the duty on copper. They might even attempt to justify the action of the last Cougress (Republican in both branches), which lowered the duty on wool nearly two per cent. In short, they might be so unreasonable as to deny that protection has any of the elements of a "straight, direct fight" in it, and to insist that the issue is wholly one of percentages, as, whether silk shall be taxed 60 or only 50 per cent.; whether common table crockery shall pay 70 or only 60 per cent.; whether the whole canning industry of the country shall be sacrificed to the whim of some firm that wants to make tin plates, but can only do so at a loss, etc., etc. Before any issue can be made on protection, protection itself must be defined, and this will involve as many figures as are to be found in a table of logarithms. We can see nothing in the prospective overhauling of the tariff which need terrify the Democrats or greatly elate any Republican newspaper.

For the present, however, the Democrats are to all outward appearance committed to the policy of a gradual reduction of the tariff in the direction of a tariff for revenue only. There are two ways for the Republicans to meet this. One is to test Democratic sincerity by co-operating beartily in the careful and moderate reduction of taxation, which it is now very clear the country demands. The Republican party built up our present system of taxation, and has gone a good way toward paying off the war debt; it should, therefore, make a special effort to take the lead in bringing back that system to the normal peace footing, even if that be a protectionist footing.

The other way is to shirk all discussion of our present system of taxation by denying that there is any fault to be found with it, either as regards its incidence or amount, and by pretending that, such as it is, the prosperity of the country has been wholly due to it, and not at all, or only in a very small degree, to our national resources, or to the skill or industry or ingenuity of the people. This ground once taken, of course other absurdities will have to follow. The sectional issue is to be revived by declaring that Mr. Carlisle's election, although he was a Union man throughout the war, means another collision between the solid South and the solid North. and that therefore Republican voters, instead of expressing an opinion at the polls upon

the amount of duty which should be levied on foreign imports, must again "vote as they shot" and "make it hot under the old flag." It appears, too, that the Irish voters in the man ufacturing towns are to be called to the polls, not to express their opinion about the taxes they ought to pay in their adopted country, but to express their hatred of England and their undying remembrance of "six hundred years of wrong." In short, the strongest sort of appeal is to be made to what is most irrational in their mental constitution, and to the passions and prejudices which most seriously diminish their value as American citizens

The history of the Democratic party, however, during the past twenty years ought to be a solemn warning to Republicans against trying to live by clap-trap or dead issues. The Republican party is likely to fail far worse in any such undertaking than even the Democrats did, because of its great dependence on the independent vote. The force with which it wins at elections is now made up almost wholly of a class which cannot be humbugged or hoodwinked by appeals and fallacies which seem to be intended for European peasants rather than for American citizena. Moreover, the revival of old cries is still less open to it than to the Democrats. The sectional issue was abandoned in 1880 for the simple reason that it was worn out. It would never have been abandoned by a certain class of politicians for any other reason. It would take another war to give it any value now. If Republican politicians should be set to work to revive it during the coming year, on the stump, they would make the party so ridiculous that it would be overwhelmed long before November, 1884.

#### MR. BLAINE'S WHISKEY SCHEME.

MR. BLAINE's letter recommending the distribution among the States of the proceeds of the Federal tax on whiskey, in order to relieve them from the burden of their local expenses, has probably answered nearly the whole of his purpose in writing it, by becoming the subject of an article in nearly every paper in the country. As materials for "copy" it has been a remarkable success. It was exceedingly shrewd of him to produce his plan as an amendment to the scheme of the Pennsylvania Protectionists for dividing redundant revenue among the States. By pointing out several serious objections to this, Mr. Blaine gives a delightful air of judiciousness and moderation to his own. A man, every one will say, who sees so clearly the defects of the Wharton Barker plan cannot but have carefully considered the whole subject, and anything he says about it must be worth weighing.

His suggestion is that the Federal Government should not go into partnership with the States in levying taxation, which it would have to do if it were to surrender the redundant revenue generally to their use; but instead of this should hand over to the States the entire proceeds of a particular tax, to be levied on one very hurtful, not to say immoral, product. From this tax he estimates a yield of about \$86,000,000 annually, which he proposes to divide among the States in proportion to their population. This would relieve the great

majority of them of the whole burden of local taxation, and at the same time discourage a very hurtful branch of industry.

It is difficult to say, at present, how much need there is of stating the objections to this scheme. At present it does not seem, much more than the Wharton Barker scheme, to lie within the domain of practical politics. The constitutional argument against the power of Congress to levy and collect taxes for such a purpose is probably not overwhelmingly To raise money for distribution strong. among the States may possibly be providing for "the general welfare of the United States, even in the strict sense of the term. But there are a great many things which are constitutional and at the same time highly inexpedient, and even sometimes ridiculous: several which Congress undoubtedly has the power to do, but which no sane man would advise its being permitted to do. It might maintain an army of 500,000 men so as to be wholly independent of the State militia, either in executing the laws of the Union, suppressing insurrection, or repelling invasion; but no one would advise its doing so, and the people would certainly not permit it to do so. Probably it would be difficult to devise anything which would constitute a more decided step toward centralization than the assumption, which both Mr. Barker and Mr. Blaine propose, by the general Government, of the payment of the local expenses of the several States. In other words, the really serious objection to the Barker plan is the really serious objection to the Blaine plan, but Mr. Blaine has got the better of Mr. Barker by producing his scheme as part of a great work of moral reform-a piece of strategy which Mr. Barker overlooked.

Whether the money which the Federal Government is to furnish the States, is raised from whiskey, or from tapioca or arrowroot, really makes very little difference. The consequence in either case would be that the local government would be relieved of one of its most useful and serious responsibilities, in the careful assessment and proper and honest collection of the taxes for local purposes. There is nothing more essential to the safety and perpetuity of free government in the United States than the imposition on the inhabitants of the several States of the duty of providing the money which is to be spent on local objects, and looking after its careful and honest expensiture. If this were taken away, only a meisimulacrum of local government would remain; and if local government be not necessary to the existence of a healthy and intelligent interest in politics on the part of the people, and to the maintenance of ordered freedom, then the Constitution itself is a huge mistake, and nearly everything that has been written by the friends of republican government as to the conditions necessary to the success of republican institutions, is a delusion. No matter whether the States got their expenses paid out of the whiskey tax or out of a silk tax or a sugar tax, as long as the tax was levied by Congress, Washington would become the great and central source of political interest and political intrigue, to which all men's thoughts would be turned, and the State governments would be converted into mere almoners of

Federal bounty. In fact, a very few years of living on the contributions made by drunkards in other parts of the country would kill utterly the already too feeble interest which the best portion of the population in many parts of the country now takes in real politics, that is, in measures of legislation and administration as distinguished from the nomination and election of officers.

The Sun has pointed out the absurdity of the Blaine plan in the case of prohibitory States like Maine, which, if their own laws were faithfully executed, would under it be drawing all their expenses from the drinking people of other States. It is to be hoped, and indeed expected, that, with the progress of civilization and the spread of education, the consumption of liquor in all the States will decline. No patriotic man will reconcile himself to the thought that the United States shall continue to receive \$86,000,000 from the whiskey tax. Unless all that is best in our institutions proves a failure, this source of income will decline. If there is to be any serious improvement in the mental and moral condition of the great mass of the people, it must deeline. Every lover of his race must believe that Americans will consume hereafter less and less whiskey, and ought to strive to that end. What are we to think, then, of a Sage who deliberately proposes a change in the manner of raising the local taxation of the country, which would give every State the strongest possible interest in having the consumption of liquor all over the country maintained and increased, and which would make the distillery one of the most valued instruments of government?

#### THE PRINTERS AND THE PRESS

THE recent printers' strike, which, as far as the Evening Post is concerned, has proved abortive, has to a good many people been full of suggestiveness as to the nature of the present and future relations between the printing trade and the press, and more particularly the newspaper press. We have been asked again and again, during the last fortnight, how it bappened that the morning papers of the city, which discuss with such fulness and freedom strikes that occur in fother branches of industry, and especially railroad and telegraph strikes, should have preserved such deep silence with regard to the printers' strike, although it had taken place in nearly every one of their offices, and had ended in every case, except that of the Erening Post and Mail and Express, in surrender to the strikers' demands. This surrender must have been due to one of two causes-that is, either to a conviction that the tendency of wages in all branches of industry, printing included, was at this moment upward, or that the consequences of resistance, as regarded the newspaper business in particular, were too serious to be faced. As a matter of fact, it is notoriously untime that the tendency of wages is upward. On the contrary, the ten dency is downward in nearly all branches of business, and the coming winter promises to be a very trying one for workingmen. A strike was threatened a few weeks ago by the article or on a topic of discussion. We ven-

compositors of the Chicago Tribune, and the question whether an advance of rates was justifiable in the present and prospective state of the labor market was, by mutual agreement between them and the proprietors, left to the decision of three arbitrators, who unanimously decided in the negative, and their decision was accepted by the men. It is fair to presume, then, that the surrender was due to reluctance on the part of newspaper proprietors to face the immediate loss and inconvenience which a strike would undoubtedly have inflicted. The public, however, has a deep interest in knowing how great this reluctance is, and how far it will be carried, or, in other words, what are the exact nature and extent of the power possessed by the printers' trade union over the newspapers, and whether, if the new-papers succumb to it, it may not make itself seriously felt among the books also.

That the press should be controlled, even in a small degree, by any trade or industry, so as either to suppress or modify its utterances on any question of the day, whether political, social, or economical, would be a serious mat ter. No organization, however mischievous, can do much harm by having an organ of its own, as long as the organ is recognized as such. But the possession of a silent, unseen influence over the press in general, and especially the metropolitan press, by any organization, however respectable or meritorious or enlightened, either in its management or in its aims, would be very disastrous, not only for the readers of particular newspapers but for the country in general. There are not many things either in the political or industrial field so important as that the newspaper publishers, at least, should be masters of their own business, and, therefore, fully responsible for the use they make of their power. Whether they are so now in this city we do not take upon ourselves to say. But that they cannot continue to be so if their present apparent reluctance to resist the demands of the Typographical Union continues, is very certain. That these demands are growing and will continue to grow with each success the Union achieves, is also cer-

What its influence on the press would be we may guess from the manner in which the Union is managed, as illustrated in the case of the Evening Post. The methods employed to bring it to terms were such as only thoroughly unscrupulous and unprincipled men would resort to, and in the hands of such men the great body of the printers in the city have practically placed their freedom and independence. We do not believe that any demand upon the proprietors of the newspapers would be too daring or too mischievous for the managers of the Union to make. It is folly to suppose, if they find they are invariably successful in extorting an increase of wages by sheer trickery and intimidation, that they will hesitate for a moment in asking for anything else they take a fancy to-the dismissal not only of men who do not choose to join the Union, or of a foreman who does his duty, but of an editor whose writing they do not like-or that they will refrain from putting a veto on an

ture to say that this tyrauny already exists in some offices in this city to a greater extent than the public imagines, and to a very dangerous extent too; that is, that in a large number of them an article such as we published in our issue before the last, or even a much milder one, which criticised unfavorably the methods of the Typographical Union, could not be put into type or printed. Under these circumstances it is, of course, questionable how long the public can expect any free or profitable newspaper discussion of trade unions or their methods, or how long the Typographical Union will confine its censorship of the press to matters immediately connected with the printing business.

Its activity has in various parts of the country already taken the form of open attempts to muzzle the press by other methods than strikes in the printing offices. has in Washington made efforts to "boycott" a newspaper by getting other trades to join in discouraging or preventing its sale. We have heard of one instance in which it has refused to set up advertisements of a particular class. The spirit which instigates such performances is one which everywhere grows with success. We do not mean to cast any special blame on the Printers' Union in this matter. There is hardly any organization in the world, which suffers directly or indirectly from the press, that would not muzzle it if it could. Any usefulness which the press possesses in the present state of society is due to the fact that it has grown too strong for nearly all special interests to meddle with it. The printers are the only class now which can directly interfere with its utterances, and it remains with the newspaper proprietors to say whether they will allow this new yoke to be put on their necks, or, by opposing it vigorously now, at the outset, compel printers to submit, in their business relations, to the social and moral obligations by which men in other callings have to be governed.

#### THE ADIRONDACK FORESTS.

THE condition of the Adirondack forests is alarming. The remoteness of the region occupied by these forests from the great lines of commerce, and the inferior quality of the material they yield, have had the effect of long postponing their inevitable destruction. Within the last few years, however, changes have taken place in the values of forest property, which must appear marvellous to those persons who can remember the price of good pine lands in Maine, Michigan, or Pennsylvania twenty-five years ago, or who have been accustomed, up to a much later day, to find comfort in the stories of our inexhaustible forests. No forest is inexhaustible. Wasteful and negligent management will in time destroy any forest, as the American people are just now finding out. The great changes which bave taken place in the value of forest property and forest products make it profitable to operate now in forests which a few years ago possessed little commercial value. This is already true of the forests in the northern part of the State of New York. As long as first-rate pine was plenty and cheap in other parts of the country, there was little inducement to cut inferior pine or spruce in a region where the facilities for lumbering are not great. At the present time, however, spruce lumber, and even the lowest grades of pine, command prices which make it profitable to cut off these Adirondack forests. Several large mills have been erected during the past year at different points in this region; the Adirondack Railway has been extended several miles into the forest for the purpose of transporting logs and lumber, and it is proposed to extend it considerably further next season. It is therefore perfectly safe to predict the entire extermination of the Adırondack forest within a comparatively short space of time unless vigorous measures can be taken to prevent it. Fire, as is always the case in this country, will be pretty certain to follow close behind the lumberman and destroy what is spared by the axe. Fires succeed fires, and the burning over, year after year, of the light sandy soil of this part of the State, will render it entirely barren, and unfit for agricultural purposes or even to produce another crop of trees.

Twenty-five years ago, the State might have acquired this whole territory at a merely nominal price. To-day, when the necessity for preserving these forests is at last really felt, it will be found an exceedingly difficult and expensive matter to place them beyond the danger of destruction. If this, however, is to be done, it must be done at once. If a delay of even another year is allowed to occur, the amount of forests to preserve in the northern part of the State will be so much reduced, and the market value of forest lands will be so much enhanced, that the possibility of treating this question in any comprehensive or proper manner will be gone. The real question now before the people of this State is, whether the preservation of the Adirondack forests is desirable upon grounds of public expediency; that is, whether the public can hope to obtain sufficient benefit from the expenditure which it will be necessary to make in order to obtain possession of these forests, to justify them in making it. In order to decide this question it will be necessary to consider what benefits the State at large may expect from the maintenance of a large area of forests about the head waters of its principal streams; and what evils may be expected to follow the destruction of these forests.

The climatic influence of the Adirondack forests, beyond their immediate neighborhood, is probably not great, so that the whole question resolves itself into a discussion of their effect upon the water supply of the State. What we must determine is whether forests in general influence the flow of rivers; and then what effect the destruction of these particular forests is likely to exert upon the water supply of the Hudson, the Mohawk, and other streams heading among them. If we turn to Europe we find that the destruction of forests has had a most disastrous effect upon the condition of innumerable rivers; and that where mountain forests have been destroyed freshets have developed torrents, towns and villages have been swept away, and valleys buried deep under heaps of stone and gravel. Such torrents have exhausted, in the course of a few weeks,

the supply of water, sufficient under normal conditions to flow continuously throughout the year. Great streams have become dry or nearly dry for months every year; and agriculture, commerce, and manufactures have suffered as severely from an insufficient supply of water at one season as they have from too much water at others. Such have been the results of excessive and improper forest destruction in many European countries. The United States happily has not yet experienced such serious fluvial irregularities as have long wasted Southern and Central Europe. This is not owing to any difference in the relations between European and American forests and rivers, which are the same in all countries. It is probably owing to the fact that nowhere in this country has any very serious damage yet been inflicted upon the remote and often inaccessible mountain forests, in which most of our important streams take their source. The time, however, is fast approaching when it will be found profitable to the lumbermen to cut off even our least valuable and most remote forests. When these are destroyed, there is no reason to doubt that precisely similar calamities will follow their destruction as have followed the destruction of forests similarly situated in other countries.

A small portion of the Adirondack forest bas yet, comparatively speaking, been destroyed; but nevertheless the water supply of the Hudson and the Mohawk has been seriously affected. There is already danger that the streams which furnish water to the Erie Canal will not be able much longer to maintain the supply, and that as soon as the forests are stripped from the steep slopes of the high ridges and peaks of the Adirondack Mountains the small streams which feed the canal, and the bed of the upper Hudson itself, will become filled with stones or sand-bars, and rendered unfit for navigation. The preservation of the Hudson River and the Erie Canal is of vital importance to the prosperity of the State of New York, and if it can be shown that they are in any way dependent upon the maintenance of a growth of forest in the Adirondack region, it will be the duty, and the first duty, of the next Legislature to take the necessary action to preserve this forest. We have examined this subject carefully in all its various aspects; and, looking at the matter in the light of the experience of other countries, and judging by the effect already produced upon the water supply in our rivers by forest destruction in this State, we believe that there is no exaggeration in stating that the future prosperity and even the commercial existence of this State are bound up with these forests, and that, unless we are prepared to abandon the natural advantages which made New York what it is, we must stop, and stop at once, any further destruction of the Adirondack forests.

# THE GERMAN CROWN PRINCE'S VISIT.

THE reception of the Crown Prince of Germany in Madrid has been such as to make it clear that he is looked upon by the Court, the army, and the people of Spain, not merely as

an illustrious guest, but as a future ally. That he came to show himself in the latter capacity, to render the friendly relations-not to say alliance-recently entered into at Berlin by King Alfonso and Emperor William popular among all classes in Spain, and especially in army circles, is more than probable. Mere courtesy and court etiquette did not require so speedy a return of a royal visit. Nor was it necessary-a journey of the nearly nonagenarian Emperor being out of the question-to burden the Crown Prince with the personal delivery of international compliments, at a moment when the oscillations of sentiment in Spain in regard to the new attitude of her Government toward France had not yet subsided, and when many a Spanish democrat might still be inclined to give vent to his sympathies for the French Republic, and to his antipathy against her Prussian despoilers, in the manner in which "the Uhlan King" was lately received by the populace of Paris. To unpleasantnesses of this kind, which are not always mere trials of stoic indifference, personages of such high standing do not expose themselves without an important motive.

But what can be the practical value of a Spanish alliance for Germany, or, more properly speaking, for Prince Bismarck's Central-European coalition? Does the coalition meditate an unprovoked attack upon France? There is not the least reason, not the least indication, to make one suppose it. And if it did, is there any probability of its being able to drag Spain, in spite of all her French and democratic leanings, into an offensive war with the neighboring republic? What has Spain to gain by it? Is Béarn, is Roussillon, to be conquered? The time for such conquests has long gone by. Louis XIV. was egregiously mistaken when he said, in placing a scion of the House of Bourbon on Spanish soil, "There are no Pyrenees any longer." They continue to be a most powerful barrier, both national and strategic. No Marshal of Spain will dream of fighting another battle of Toulouse; when Wellington fought his in 1814, the military power of France had totally collapsed. An attempt to invade France will be deemed fratricidal by the Spanish nation, and must prove suicidal to the Government. Or is the value of the alliance a negative one? Is the consummation of a Franco Spanish alliance feared, or rather the adhesion of Spain to a Franco-Russian alliance which might be formed one of these days? The addition of a Spanish army corps to the forces of France on the Rhine would be of very little significance. Nor could Alfonso be persuaded to aid the French republicans, by landings in Italy, in revolutionizing that peninsula against the Sardinian dynasty, or the Spanish people of to-day be induced, should a monarchical restoration succeed in France, to join in a French crusade for the reëstablishment of the Papal power, as it did in 1849. Ail such contingencies are so highly improbable, and so remote, that sacrifices and efforts to prevent or counteract them appear decidedly unworthy of so serious and bold a diplomacy as is

There is, however, another field where the

military activity of Spain might become exceedingly useful to the coalition erected by Prince Bismark as a bulwark of Central Europe against Russia and France combined, and where the moral support of the coalition would be still more important to Spain. We mean Northwestern Africa, as a possible theatre of Spanish warlike expansion. Spain has small possessions, some interests, and bases of operations there; she is anxious for colonial acquisitions on her side of the Atlantic, which might compensate her for all she has irretrievably lost on the other side; and her generals can find no other field for earning laurels by the sword, unless it be in civic contests. In Morocco moulder the bones of King Sebastian, and of so many other Spaniards who have fought for the Cross against the Crescent, down to the times of Prim and O'Donnell. This land of the Moors, from which came the foes with whom she contended for eight centuries. Spain looks upon as her lawful prey. The conquest of Algeria, the ancient Numidia, by the French, sharpened her desire for the conquest of the adjoining ancient Mauritania. In the same way emancipated Italy longed and expected to unite Tunisia, the land of ancient Carthage, with her dominions. The treacherous snatching away of this prev by France drove Italy into the alliance with Germany and Austria-Hungary. It equally exasperated Spain, who now finds that France is bent on seizing alone all the heritage of decaying Islam on the African shores of the western Mediterranean, with the hope of one day converting the latter into "a French lake.

To persuade Spain to resume and steadily to pursue a bold and aggressive policy in Morocco, and thus make her suspend her sword over the right flank of the French in northern Africa, while Italy, powerful in her ironclads, would menace the left in Tunisia, would be a permanent weakening, if not disabling, of the Republic for warfare against a powerful enemy in Europe. To begin such a policy, Spain needs only the promise of Ger. many, which might be readily given, that a violent opposition to it on the part of the French would be deemed by the Empire a wanton provocation of the Powers allied for the sake of peace. Germany may be inclined to promise more direct co-operation with her fleet, for which she is said to be anxious to acquire a station, such as the port of Mogadore, on the Atlantic shore of Morocco. Aggressive operations in Morocco could be begun by Spain without a direct challenge to Francehowever threatening they might appear to her-and thus without a challenge to the Spanish democracy. The Cabinet which initiated them would strengthen its position; success would strengthen the throne. No more propitious time for beginning such a policy could be found than the present, when the anti-French animosity is still lively among the majority of the Spanish people, and France is inextricably entangled by her adventurous undertakings in the far East. These considerations seem to us to offer a plausible explanation of the German Crown Prince's visit to the Court of Spain and of his choice of the moment.

ORANGE ACTION IN ULSTER.

DUBLIN, Nevember 17.

THE United States and the British Colonies are perhaps as much interested as we are in the solution of the Irish problem. The unsettlement and demoralization at home are confined within the limits of the British Islands, But to you and the Colonies are being carried principles and modes of thought which, so long as they are nourished from here (and probably long after), will take root and flourish and bear bitter fruit over vast territories and amidst untold millions. of people. A heavy responsibility rests upon the public opinion and journalism of the United States. Nations owe duties to each other just as individuals do. How much the unity of Italy was promoted by the moral support of Great Britain! How much the anti-slavery cause owed to its British allies! The South would scarcely have attempted secession if it had not relied upon the sympathy of the governing classes in the United Kingdom.

So is it at present with the Irish question, You have opportunities of judging more coolly and broadly than we can; and we know that if the public opinion of the United States be clearly and steadily against us on any important point, we are pretty sure to be in the wrong. And yet even your judgment must often be warped. For instance, the leading organs of Protestant England and Ireland may naturally unduly influence you, and it is to be feared that the samples of Irish you have in your midst are too often not fairly representa tive of our real character and capabil ities. One of my best friends in the United States lately wrote, "I no more think of your being Irish than of your being a Malay." On the other hand, you may perhaps bring to the solution of the problem theories regarding the rights of men and of nations which are not applicable in the case of Ireland and England. And since the majority in every country take sides from interested motives, your politicians are not peculiar if they try to advance their party or their personal aims by an easy acquiescence in cries or measures which affect a distant body politic, and can never, as they suppose, react on themselves, Still, I cherish a profound confidence in educated America arriving at a clear and belptul average opinion upon the subject. Your unimpassioned distance may outweigh in advantage our more intimate acquaintance with facts, blinded as we are by the heat and dust of the conflict.

The proceedings of the Government with regard to late events in the North appear to us Nationalists most unfair. You are aware how the matters stand. There is an open agitation in Ireland under the auspices of the National League. The objects of this League are to secure for Ireland self-government in local affairs perhaps such as your States have, and a system of peasant proprietary such as exists in nearly every part of the civilized world except the United Kingdom. No one believes that these changes can be effected by force of arms. Our weapons are words. In the course of the agitation there is much said that ought not to be said; but we can hardly expect here the ordinary moral responsibility for language such as there is in a free country. Everything written or spoken passes through Government sieves. The Government can at its own will, at any moment, forbid any meeting, silence any newspaper, and cart off the plant of a printing-office to the vaults of the nearest police station. Government reporters attend every meeting. The language for which Mr. Hartington suffered three months' imprisonment in convict's dress, with plank bed and oakum-picking, is of course stronger than it is safe to utter upon any Irish platform. His words have already appeared in your columns; but 1 may be permitted again to quote them:

"I advise the tenant-farmers of this locality to come forward zealously, and give a fair day's wages for a fair day's work. The agitation which has been carried on for the last four years will be turned against them if they do not come forward now and assist the laborers in their hour of need. I have learned since I came here (the county of Westmenth'; that a great many of the farmers had got a reduction of from ten to twenty-five per cent., and they should come forward now, and assist the laborers in their hour of need."

Our minutest actions are watched by the police. We are liable to arrest if out of doors after certain bours. A word, a look, the refusal to sell to a customer, the whistling of a tune, may at any moment subject a man, a woman.or a child to imprisonment with hard labor. It is under these conditions that public meetings are held throughout Ireland. I have never heard it asserted that the language uttered on such occasions has been exceptionally violent in Ulster, or that meetings have there been attended with disorder. And then the Orangemen, headed by Lord Rossmore, Lord Ernest Hamilton, deputyheutenants, magistrates, and gentlemen step in and declare they will have no more National demonstrations in "their" province. Not content with bolding meetings of their own, which they would have a perfect right to do, and in which they would be supported to the last by the Government (and which some of the most trusted National leaders have pledged themselves to insist on their right to hold, in any part of Ireland), these Crangemen have waited for National meetings to be announced, some in almost purely Catholic districts, have then issued proclamations, called their followers together, by road and rail, and assembled at the same spot and hour, with the declared determination to prevent the announced demonstration, They have resorted to open force upon more than one occasion. They have used language in comparison with which Mr. Hartington's is "as moonlight unto sunlight, and as water unto wine."

Under such circumstances the duty of the Government would appear to be plain, to mete out the same measure to Protestant noblemen and gentlemen, in Ulster, as it metes out to the mass of the people throughout Ireland. Lord Ernest Hamilton and Lord Rossmore are as fair game as Mr. Davitt and Mr. Healy. The Orangemen tried their Derry tactics in Glasgow the other day, and placarded their intention of preventing a lecture which it was announced Mr. Sexton, M. P., would deliver. Whereupon the Lord Provost did what the Irish Government, with its 50,000 troops and police, and a dozen coercion acts at its back, failed to do-declared his intention of supporting liberty of speech. He called on the military and police to protect the hall, and Mr. Sexton gave his address unmolested. Now what has been the action of Mr. Gladstone's Liberal Government in Ireland as administered by Earl Spencer and the biographer of Macaulay and Fox? It has done precisely what the Orangemen wished it to do, "proclaimed" the National meetings. It has been fair in this respect as regards the County Fermanagh-it has forbidden the carrying of arms to both parties alike; but we may feel sure that few of those gentlewho lately advised their adherents men to bring with them "their sweethearts and plenty of provision" (meaning revolvers and ammunition) will be refused licenses. It will be interesting to hear what defence the Government will make when Parliament meets. The Times is of course well satisfied, as it always is when force is applied to the solution of the Irish problem. It says: "The decision of the Irish Executive . . . has been welcomed with unalloyed satisfaction by sensible men of all parties." How do the American people and press feel in this matter? I am reminded of Gibbon's words: "As they punished only their enemies, they were obeyed only by their adherents." A high official in Dublin Castle told a friend of mine a few days ago that "Earl Spencer was rapidly following in Mr. Forster's footsteps."

In considering the question, you must remember that while the reported language of too many of the Nationalists is violent and in bad taste, often addressed as it is to inflammable audiences, the private sayings and attitude of their opponents are worse and more irritating. Many of the most violent Nationalists show themselves in private conversation to be reasonable men, while the freely-expressed extreme opinions of the ascendency party in Ireland appear ingrained in their very nature. I have never heard more wicked utterances than in private, at eating-houses, in public conveyances, against the tenantry and people of Ireland. from conscience or policy such language is seldom uttered in public, but this vindictive and contemptuous attitude of mind must make itself felt, and with the most baneful results to the community. Moreover, conservative public pronouncements of this character are not exposed like the extreme words of Nationalists. The Freeman's Journal prints both alike, but I have turned to the Daily Express in vain for reports of such speeches-as one in which, the other day, the nominee of the Constitutional party for the Mayoralty denounced Mr. G adstone as "a traitor to his country, and a traitor to his God"; or as another in which on Thursday evening, at a Conservative gathering, a professional man heaped the vilest insinuations upon Mr. Parnell and some of his party.

I will conclude this letter with a portion of a speech delivered the other day, by a Belfast Protestant manufacturer, to his 300 Protestant workpeople, who had persecuted from among them a few Catholic girls. It shows that while religious bitterness has for the most part died out in open party warfare, it still subsists among the population from whom the Orangemen are recruited:

"I have little doubt that you all feel very happy and delighted at having, by cruel intimidation, driven a few quiet, re-pectable, and inoffensive girls from these works, and are under the impression that you have accomplished a glorious victory, of which you are exceedingly proud. Is this not so? Your doing so has forced me to believe that you are just the right sort to tyrannize over the weak and helpless, and who would, if you dared, establish an inquisition where you would try and condem Papists to be burned, and for a pastime hunt and hang Presbyterians. . . You are a disgrace to Protestantism, and had you lived in the times of this good king (William III.) who fought and won the battle of civil and religious liberty, you would have been found in the ranks of his bitterest enemies."

# THE LUTHER CELEBRATION AND ITS SEQUEL.

Berlin, November 14.

The last fortnight of our (and of a great part of European) life has been taken up with Martin Luther. Demonstrations and festivals of all kinds were celebrated all over the country and abroad. The old towns and places interwoven with the prominent events in Luther's history, such as Eisleben, where he was born and died; such as Eisleben, where he studied; Wittenberg, where he passed the best part of his hard-working life; Worms, where he stood be fore the Emperor and uttered the immortal

words: "Here I stand; I cannot do otherwise. So help me God, Amen"; the Wartburg, where he translated the New Testament, and the old castle of Coburg, in the solitude of which he continued his studies-all these, with more or less pomp, splendor, and taste, celebrated the 400th anniversary of the great reformer's birth. They were joined, of course, by all the Protestant cities of the Empire. The German Lutherans in Catholic towns and provinces did not stay behind, and with spontaneous enthusiasm did honor to the great national hero. In non-German countries, as in the Russian Baltic provinces, in Norway and Sweden, Denmark and England, Hotland and Switzerland, the interest of the people was as genuine as in the districts where the Reformation originated, suffered, and only partly triumphed.

In Prussia, the leading Power of Protestantism, the most orthodox wing of the Lutheran Church tried to make capital out of the great national movement for its own selfish ends; but its designs were baffled, first, by the Crown Prince, who invited the Liberal Protestants to join him at the first Wittenberg celebration, and proclaimed mutual good-will and forbearance as the duty of every patriot; and next by the masses, who cared more for a national than for a sectarian commemoration. Thus the good sense of the Crown Prince and the current of popular feeling proved stronger than the arrogance of intolerant clergymen and reactionary country squires. In Berlin, the University and city authorities vied with the Government in making the celebration an imposing holiday. Although the Berlin Mayor is a Roman Catholic (but not of the infallibility stamp), the President of the Board of Councilmen a Jew, and although three of the State Ministers are Catholics, entire harmony of feeling prevailed. One of the finest features of the day was the p ocession of about 100,000 school children, who in large squads marched to the churches and were presented each with a popular biography of Lutner. All classes of the people appreciated thoroughly the importa, ce of the day and looked bappy and elated. Flags waving from housetops and towers; music playing the great hymn of the Reformation, "Eine feste Burg," and chorals; banners stretching from one side of the street to the other; fresh green wreaths and garlands decorating private houses and public buildings or thrown on the pavement, made a highly festive impression.

The conduct of our Roman Catholic brethren was not what it ought to have been. While nobody expected them to participate in the celebration, they were likewise expected not to manifest their anger toward it. It was only a practical joke that Herr Windthorst, the leader of the Ultramontanes, half clown and half statesman (imagine such a compound!), proposed a day of Roman Catholic bumiliation and prayer for the sins of the followers of Luther. and for their return to the bosom of their loving mother. This comical proposition, of course, was laughed at by the Protestants, and even not heeded by the most bigoted Catholics. The attempt of the leading paper of this city, the Germania, to renew at the end of the nineteenth century a style of warfare which, more than two bundred years ago, was initiated by the Jesuits, and even then derided by all except the mob, likewise proved futile, although dozens of pampblets followed in the wake of the Germania. There is no foul slander, no mean epithet in the German language, which was not used in their attacks upon Luther's character. They transformed his name into " Luder," which means carrion-an invention which, however, has not the merit of being new,

as it was manufactured at the outbreak of the Reformation; represented his father as a murderer and his son as a rebel, a robber, and a usurper. The actions of such a criminal were of course dictated by low ambition or lust, and his heroic life was nothing but a mixture of treachery and meanness. It is not quite certain, says one of these pamphlets, published in the Prussian city of Treves, whether this unprincipled monk (Luther) died of debauchery, or whether finally "the devil came for him."

So far as I know, there was only one prominent Roman Catholic who appreciated the full importance of Luther-I mean Ignatius Doellinger, of Munich, perhaps the greatest scholar in the history of his Church. He wrote to a friend that Catholics too were obliged to do homage to one of the greatest sons of Germany, and that they, as well as Protestants, ought to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the day on which Luther was given not only to his own country but to the whole civilized world. Of course Doellinger is right. We all-our modern civilization-stand on the shoulders of Luther. It was he who, in overthrowing the despotism of Rome, did away with the Latin dogma and reconquered the liberty of conscience and the autonomy of the individual. It was he who thus aroused the world from mental slumber to intellectual activity, and made the Teutonic race the leader in modern history. I cannot dwell at length upon the history of the Reformation, its spread to England and America: but your own political development is based on it. I think you will agree with me, that that grand thesis of ninetyfive paragraphs which, on the 31st day of October, 1517. Luther nailed on the chapel door at Wittenberg, finally, after more than two centuries and a half, found its synthesis, when, on July 4, 1776, in the State House at Philadelphia. the young rising republic of the West made its Declaration of Independence and established liberty of conscience in politics. Thus Wittenberg and Philadelphia stand in close connection. Luther and his co-workers were the originators of the Reformation of the Church -Washington and his compeers, of that of the State

But, even his merits as a reformer set aside, Luther has other peculiar claims on the gratitude of the German people. Our language would have been stifled in a dozen different dialects if he had not elevated it by his classical translation of the Bible and by his hymns; our schools would never have reached their comparatively high standard if he had not established them on a sound pecuniary basis, and extended the sphere of their useful activity. The Roman Catholics also ought to revere him, as his fierce warfare on the old Roman Church did away with the wicked Popedom of the Middle Ages, and effected the so-called Catholic counterreformation.

It is a pity that in the present exasperation of minds, and in the midst of a conflict which for the past ten years has been raging with almost mediæval passion, greater stress had to be laid on Luther, the reformer and manly fighter, than on the patriot, the scholar, and the peaceful organizer. On the whole, the sacerdotal character prevailed in the festivity all over Germany, and introduced a certain narrow-mindedness which manifested itself even in Berlin. The old Emperor, who was present at the services in the St. Nicholas Church and the Cathedral, on this occasion considered himself merely as the high bishop of the Protestant Church and invited only Protestant dignitaries. Besides, the speeches and sermons of those days abound only in monotonous praise. Why not represent Luther as he really was? Why whitewash his

stubbornness and other faults; why conceal his shortcomings and chiefly attack his opponents, who in a great many instances stood above him ! Take only Zwingli!-not to speak of Thomas Münzer and Karlstadt! A really great man, such as Luther is and always will be, still remains great even if he often errs. Not a word was said about the phases which he underwent in his long life. From the time when he first (on October 31, 1517) attracted public attention in Wittenberg, down to his appearance before the Diet of Worms, in April, 1521, he was the great national hero. From 1521 to the outbreak of the great Peasants' War, in 1525, he was the great revolutionary leader who appealed to the masses for the support of his work, and obtained it. These eight years, from 1517 to 1525, are the most fascinating and the noblest period of his life, during which he was the most popular and the most respected man of Germany and of Europe; but then he became afraid of the consequences of his own doings, cried for the police against Münzer and others, became an established clergyman, and cared only for securing his religious reformation under the shelter of petty princes, who protected him for a very valuable consideration, namely: the confiscation for their sole profit and interest of the estates of the Church. Nevertheless, Luther is one of the representative men of history.

Awakened by the enthusiasm of the Luther commemoration, some plans have been formed to perpetuate the memory of the present celebration. First, it is intended to erect a statue of the reformer in a most conspicuous place in Berlin, as the largest Protestant city of the Contineut and the capital of the German Empire. The principal promoters of this plan are the members of the Gustav Adolf Verein (the Liberal wing). Some propose to place the statue opposite the Great Elector on the King's Bridge and fronting the finest part of the old Castle. The collections promise rich results; they will at least produce a sum sufficient to pay for a first-class work. All the Berliners can desire is that the statue to be cast shall conal Siemering's statue of Luther which, on the 10th instant, was unveiled at Eisleben. It is really a masterpiece of sculpture. By the way, this Prof. Rudolf Siemering is at present engaged in modelling a large equestrian statue of Washington for the Philadelphia Cincinnati. In my opinion it is equal to Rauch's Frederick the Great. Besides, a committee has been organized for the collection of a capital of several millions for the education of the sons and daughters of poor teachers and elergymen. The ultra-Orthodox wanted to confer this benefit only on the sons of clergymen who should become theological students; but the more liberal men suc ceeded in having it conferred also on children of teachers, and in not limiting the stipend to theologians, but in allowing all the stipendiaries to follow any trade or profession. This movement too, spreading all over Germany, and headed by the most influential gentlemen, will be a decided

It is, however, more than doubtful whether a third plan will safely reach port. It contemplates the erection of a new "Luther Church" in this city. There is no sympathy for it, for the reason that the first idea was advocated by our Orthodox, who play the part of black gendarmerie in our political life, and that Berlin has already too many churches, which are far from being filled. Some years ago, when the Berlin Magistrate was applied to for a contribution for the erection of a church which was to be built in one of the new suburbs, an inquiry was made in order to ascertain whether or not the neighboring churches could accommodate a few hundred more new comers. The Committee

found that in one of these churches the highest number of visitors was eleven, and that in the other it amounted to twenty three. Among the latter were sixteen old ladies, who took their nap; five gentlemen, who liked the cool air in the heat of the summer day, and two baby Christians with their mothers. The Magistrate accordingly refused to act in the premises, and in the present instance, I apprehend, the pious Berliners, too, will decide that there is no need for a new church, even if it be for Luther.

Let me finally call your attention to some prominent publications on Lather's life. The best and most complete of all is 'Martin Luther: Sein Leben und Seine Schriften, by Dr. Julius Köstlin, Professor at the University of Halle, in two large octavo volumes, which has just been published in its third edition. The first appeared in 1876, and the second last spring. For the thoroughness of its investigations, the accuracy of its details, and its fine style, this stand aid work was crowned with a price of 1,000 thalers by the Prussian royal committee which had to decide on the ments of historical works which had been published between the years 1870 and 1880. An epiteme of this larger work has just been published for the anniversary, and has been translated into English. It is well worth reading. A work not less conspicuous, and perhaps more comprehensive, is that which Prof. Max Lenz, of Marburg, Professor of Modern History, has written for the Magistrate of Berlin, who has distributed it in the higher classes of the gymnasia. In my opinion it is best adapted for the general reader, as it represcuts Luther in the light of his time. It does not fill more than 500 pages, 12mo, and ought to be translated into English. Popular and cheap pamphlets for schools have been written by the court preachers, Rogge and Frommel, of which several bundred thousand copies have been distributed. They are finely illustrated, and cost only twelve cents and six cents apiece respectively. The best contribution, however, to the glorification of November 10 is Herrman Boehlau's new critical edition of Luther's. works, in royal 8vo, to be published in about thirty-five volumes, at twenty marks each, and superintended by one of the most learned Luther critics, Mr. Knake of Drackenstedt, Theological seminaries, students, and libraries cannot in future dispense with this new edition of Luther's works. In New York it will be found at E. Steiger's, who has taken thirteen copies, as I see from the subscription list.

# Correspondence.

THE SPEAKER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

Sir: I imagine that many if not most of your readers, in following the fierce struggle over the Speakership as reported from Washington, have wondered what there can be to cause so much excitement in the mere office of presiding over the business of the House of Representatives. They are perhaps not aware that the Speaker is by far the most powerful individual in the Government, much more so than the President or any member of the Cabinet, The Speaker makes up absolutely at discretion all the committees which do the business of government, subject only to the established custom of naming a fair minority from his political opponents. When it is considered that these committees, working in secret, have, to say nothing of their positive power in shaping the policy of the Government, a nearly perfect negative power of stifling any movement or action which they do not like, it becomes evident how important is this function of the Speaker. Add to this, that after the committees have reported, the Speaker, through his power of "recognizing" at his pleasure members desiring to speak, can throw the chances of political manœuvring very largely in favor of his political supporters. With all this power the Speaker is completely irresponsible either as regards the nation or the Executive. He is bound only to the party majority which has elected him, and after such a conflict as the present we may be sure that to them he is bound hand and foot.

It is a curious instance how, in spite of all our dread of one-man power, our affairs tend to drift steadily more and more in this direction. The fact is that there is an absolute necessity for some organized leadership in Congress. A passing comment of Mr. E. A. Freeman, in his "Impressions of the United States," is very much to the point:

"One incident specially struck me as illustrating the constitutional provision (sic) which shuts out the ministers of the President from Congress. One representative made a fierce attack on the Secretary of the Navy, and the Secretary of the Navy was not there to defend himself. Generally, I should say, the House of Representatives and the legislative bodies which answer to it in the several States illustrate Lord Macaulay's saying about the necessity of a ministry to keep a Parliament in order. One result of its absence is the far larger powers which in these assemblies are given to the Speaker And this is again attended by the danger of turning the Speaker himself into the instrument of a party."

Boston, November 30th.

G. B.

#### THE SOUTH IN THE NATIONAL REPUB-LICAN CONVENTION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: As you have correctly pointed out in your paper, there is a strong effort made to repeat, in the 1884 Republican Convention, the spectacle of a solid Republican South. This result will be inevitable if the President continues in his policy to take advice, as to the South and Southern officials, from those who at present control Southern Republican patronage. It seems from the choice of such advisers: 1st. That the President either does not know or does not believe there are any decent Republicans in the South. 2d. That, at court, an impression seems to prevail that there are no Republicans in the South worth consulting, except those who either seek or hold office. 3d. That the policy pursued by certain Southern politicians in preventing any decent accessions to the Republican party, so as to keep it, as to numbers, within such a compass that there shall be no more white Republicans than nec-ssary to give each of them an office, is especially approved of by the President and his advisers, or is acquiesced in by them from an ignorance of the true state of the facts. Just think how untrue it is, and how much more untrue it becomes every year, that we exercise the right of free citiz-ns in the choice of our offlcers. It is the same from the President down to the constable in the smallest civil district. In no case has the popular voice any real choice. Look at the composition of a National Convention. Ward politicians and local wire-pullers make polities so disgusting that no decent gentleman has anything to do with them. Under this state of facts local conventions, to appoint first State and then national delegates, are beid by these ward poli icians and local wire-pullers, The delegates thus constituted meet and agree upon a choice, in which the people have to acquiesce. Now that is not enough. It so happens, in the circumstances herein suggested, that the choice of nearly one-half of the delegates, or at least of a respectable working minority, is made up from the Southern States, where none but

office-holders or office seekers control such affairs.

And that is called a National Convention of the party of great moral ideas!

Is it not time that the tide of these evils should be checked? If the President really does not mean to work for a renomination, or if he intends to be renominated only if it can be done fairly, why does he not examine the true condition of the Republican party in the South?

UNUS.

NASHVILLE, Nov. 24, 1883.

#### OUR REPRESENTATION IN ITALY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In anticipation of the meeting of Congress, and that information may not be wanting as to the state of our relations with Italy (though with faint hope that either public opinion or official wisdom will be moved by what is to be said), I beg to call attention to our official representation at Rome. Last year I showed that, owing to the ill judged attempt of our Government (properly, I suppose, a Congressional committee) to force the hand of Italy, the Italian ministry had refused to recognize as Consul-General the gentleman appointed to that office, in pursuance of the economical policy of accumulating the offices of Consul-General and Secretary of Legation on one representative. The Italian Government has from time immemorial refused to recognize a consul as a diplomatic officer, and even, until Mr. Marsh induced them to relax the rule, to allow the consulate-general of any foreign country to be established in the same place as its legation; and when our Government, ignoring (as it has done during the past year) the rebuff in its attempted violation of Italian official etiquette, persisted in forcing on the recognition of Italy a consular officer accredited with diplomatic functions, the King's Government replied in the only way left it, by refusing to recognize the consulate-general, and has ever since ignored it completely, requiring the authentication of signatures, etc., as far as official recognition is concerned, to be made by the legation-i, e., officially cutting the consulate dead. I suppose that our Department of State cannot be ignorant of the egregious discourtesy involved in thus persisting in a pretension which in the beginning was an act of impoliteness, such as in private intercourse the rudest member of Congress would hardly venture on; but the Department bas been in many cases, and I believe was in this, overruled by the action of men utterly ignorant of diplomatic etiquette. It is just as well, therefore, that the country should be advised that the Government of Italy has not relaxed, and will not relax, its regulations; and that our Consul-general does not, and under the present régime will not, exist for it : and that instead of economizing, as Congress intended, we are wasting the salary of the Consul-General, and keeping up an insulting farce at the court of Rome, thus augmenting the reputation of America for a lack of either politeness or intelligence. The only step our Government can take in common decency is to move the consulate-General to some other city-Turm, Milan, Florence, or Naples. From its general convenience for Americans and central situation, of course Florence would be the best, and doubtless the most grateful to the Italian Gov-

But this is not all the story. The present state of our aggregate representation illustrates curiously the awkwardness of our position. We have at this moment no proper official representative at Rome, unless either the Minster or the Secretary of Legation has very recently returned, of which I am not informed.

Mr. Astor and Gen. Richmond are both away on leave of absence-there is no Consul General or Consul, and the Vice Consul-General is Mr Hooker, a banker, who of course, as any banker would, values the connection at so many francs a year in the business of his bank. The respectability of allowing our official character to rest in the hands of any banking establishment is questionable, but here we have the legation and consulate mixed up with a banker who was, during our war, known as the most actively disloyal Northern man in Rome. In his hands is now the entire dignity of the United States of America. I believe he gives a room in the bank for the use of the legation, and the arms of the United States serve as the sign-board of his bank. We have a consular clerk who is appointed and paid by the Government, and is, I believe, a most competent officer and actually performs all the duties of the consulate general; but he is, by our ingenious system, not recognized as a public official, and for the Government of Italy does not exist.

I have nothing to say of the personnel of our official representation. The position is not of their making, and they are not responsible except for the anomaly of the Minister and the Secretary being absent at the same time: but it is clear that if our national character is of so little importance that it may be left in the bands of a banker for months at a time, a wiser economy would abolish it altogether. To suppose that Congress will pay any attention to the dignity of the country abroad, is doubtless a dream; but then let public opinion insist on respectability or economy. It is probably to the hammering of exasperated Philistines and outsiders like myself, that we owe the slight reform in the consular and diplomatic service-a reform which, as to the personality, is considerable, and most grateful to one who remembers it in past years, but which, so long as the system is not legally reformed, secures nothing. Let it be made a law that no man in trade, no banker or shopkeeper, or man interested in any business in the place where the consulate or legation is located, shall have any official connection with it. We are not so poor that we cannot pay our representatives. We do not at present pay them enough-in many cases not living wages to an honest consul; but we can at least keep our name abroad from being "put up the spout," either by paying or abolishing the places we can't pay. W. J. S.

#### DEFECTS OF THE HOMESTEAD LAW.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

NOVEMBER, 1883.

SIR: In a report to the United States Land Office, on the working of the homestead law, by Mr. E. T. Bickford, it is stated that a large proport on of homesteads in Dakota are claimed by persons who are not actual settlers. One need not go as far West as Dakota to find a similar state of affairs. It may safely be said that 25 per cent. of the homesteads in the State of Wisconsin are claimed by lawyers, merchants, tradesmen, and other people, woo do not at all intend to make their homesteads their homes. They erect a rude log-cabin on their claim, in which they spend a few pleasant summer days every year, and, five years later, offer to make final proof. Any one of their neighbors is ready to bear witness that they have complied with all the requirements of the law. I recall the instance of a widow lady from New York, who used to spend the summer with her friends in this village. She claims to be the legal owner of a fine homestead in this county, yet I doubt whether she has ever so much as seen the place. Our homestead law

certainly needs an alteration.—Very respectfully, ERNST BRUNCKEN.

MEDFORD, WIS., Nov. 22, 1883.

#### LITERARY RESEMBLANCES.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The tribulations of authors will apparently never cease. Here is an English correspondent of the Literary World writing from Germany of the appropriation, by the veracious Charles Reade, of an incident in one of Grimm's Fairy Tales, and of its interweaving by that fertile author into one of the innumerable stories which he is flinging off right and left—this time into the columns of one of the Harper publications.

The object of this letter is not nearly so wicked, but simply to recall to some of your German-reading readers the remarkable resemblance between a picturesque incident in Mr. F. Marion Crawford's 'Roman Singer'—the story of Nina's love-confession to Hedwig von Lira—and Grimm's "Dornröschen," in which the hedge grows up around the enchanted castle, and suddenly, on the approach of the lover-prince, breaks into blossom. I do not assert that this is a case of plagiarism, but the incidents are sufficiently alike in the two stories to haunt one with a feeling that one may have suggested the other.

J. A. H.

LEXINGTON, VA., Nov. 25.

# THE SENIOR SOCIETY EVIL AT YALE. TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: There is certainly no good reason why secret societies should exist in any college. Without doubt the element of secrecy works a great barm both at Yale and elsewhere; but that Yale in particular is handicapped by its society system is not true. The writer, an undergraduate and a non-society man, is greatly surprised to learn, through the correspondence columns of the Nation, that he and the majority of his classmates are under a tyranny of two senior societies having a membership of thirty, about equally divided between the best and the very weakest men in the class. So much of your correspondent's letter is absurd. And in regard to another part of it, I speak for a large number of my classmates when I say that as long as we have minded our own business we have not been in the least annoyed by mystic scarf-pins or the increasing size of "Bones" hall. Furthermore, after nearly four years of college life, our lovalty to Yale is by no means destroyed because we do not happen to be members of this or that club or society. As to the statement that it is useless to appeal to the Faculty for redress of grievances because half the members of that body were society men in college, it strikes us as rather severe on the rest of the Faculty.

But without taking too much space, we wish to offer a few disconnected facts, which do not go to show that the secret societies are on the whole a benefit to the College, but which may temper the impression conveyed by the letters you have published. In the first place, Yale men generally agree that the strong class feeling here is, as a professor recently said, "a grand good thing." It promotes the democratic spirit for which the College is remarkable; and hence the class system of societies is at least more destrable than one which might tend to break up this class feeling. Again, the senior societies hold out elections as incentives to good literary work and success in athletics; for the valedictorian, the salutatorian, junior prize-man, successful college journalists and writers, and the men who distinguish themselves by faithful work in foot-ball, base-ball, and rowing are generally sure to "go" to either "Bones" or "Keys." This

is the only real excuse for their existence. As to the death of "Linonia" and the other debating societies, they died a natural death here, as in other New England colleges. Indeed, debating societies seem to have followed the Star of Empire, and to day they flourish in Western universities.

As I said in the beginning, there is no reason why secret societies should not cease to exist in all colleges. But the point that I insist on is that the reform must come not from within, as "Graduate" suggests, but from without. The evil which your correspondents mention so in definitely is simply the toadying of a considerable number in every class to a few members of the class above; and the harm done by the societies is that they encourage this toadyism, or "suping," as it is here called. These societies will cease to exist just so soon as a healthy college sentiment comes to recognize the fact that the traditional secrecy of fifteen or thirty college seniors is a very silly thing at the most

YALE COLLEGE, Nov. 27, 1883.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: As a graduate of Yale I rejoice at the opening in the columns of the Nation of the dis cussion of what is aptly styled the "Senior Society Evil at Yale." No one can pass four years as a student in that institution without becoming deeply sensible of the overshadowing influence wielded by the two senior societies. If his judgment is not warped by a consuming desire to become a member of one of them, I venture to say it will be equally impossible for bim not to recognize the fact that the influence of these societies is highly detrimental to the best interests of the College. There is not a detail mentioned in the recent communication of an undergraduate that is not borne out by the experience of every non-society man who goes through Yale.

To attempt to explain just why the Callege world should be so dominated by the small body of men who compose the membership of "Bones" and "Keys," would be a difficult task. There is no valid reason why thirty men should so largely control the minds of six hundred. The absurdity of the thing, however, makes it none the less a fact, and one which, as remarked by "Graduate," vitally concerns the welfare of Yale College. The tyrannizing tendency of the societies is no myth. It is as real as any influence that one feels at college, yet can with difficulty be described. The shackling of the Col lege press is complete, and the high-spirited undergraduate feels the galling weight of the society influence" when he learns that the columns of the College press, ostensibly organs for the free expression of College opinion, are closed to him if he desires to call the attention of his fellow-students to some subject which the mighty powers of the societies decide shall not be discussed. If the College community may be considered a world in miniature, and the College press as relatively the same to this little world as the public press is to the world at large, the simple fact of interference with the free working of this organ of public life should utterly condemn the system responsible for it No one can conceive of an institution so beneficial in other respects that we should be willing to give into its unlimited control the press of the country ; nor should a similar state of affairs be tolerated in a college, by those who profess to have at heart the interests of the institution they serve. I lay stress on this particular phase of the "Senior Society Evil" because it is in this way that the societies largely exert their deadening influence on the growth of an independent manhood at Yale. From the time of entering,

the undergraduate, if he desires to secure a place in one of these gatherings of "the most distinguished men of his class," is subjected to a course of imposition, and if he cares call his so I his own he is at once set down as having "ruined his chances." As a consequence, where we should see manly young men we see too often only "supes."

That the lovalty of the Vale graduates is greatly lessened by the continued existence of the senior societies is a fact patent to all who are not wilfully blind. I was informed recently, by a Yale man, of a graduate (at the head of a preparatory school, who said that so long as the secret societies existed at Yale he should exert his influence against seneing his boys to his Alma Mater. It is a question for the Faculty and Corporation to consider whether they can afford to ignore the existence of this sentiment among the alumur-a sentiment that must, if continued, be injurious in a high degree. "Graduste" suggests that, instead of abousting the societies, they be entreated to discard their infantile regulations; but I think if they were to do this and also cease to be exclusive, they would scarcely have a ruison detre

Gentlemen of the Faculty, you have in the bosom of Yale College an enemy to her progress. The feeling in regard to the society system may be unreasoning, but it exists, it is on the it-crease—and what do you process to do about it?

EURITY TRUE

MEDIA, PA., Nov. 24, 1885.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION

Six The senior societies of Yale have their advantages. Membership in them is an object of ambition to most underclassmen, as, prima facie, it is an evidence of superiority in learning, culture, good fellowship, muscle, or wealth. The fraternity spirit in these societies is very strong, and one who has passed the mystic pertals receives benefit therefrom, social or other, throughout his life. But, taken all in all, these secreties are not an unmixed good. Till the close of the junior year, when the elections are given out, the student ambitious of being a senior society man may be spurred on to extra exertion in some way that promises to win for him this honor; but, after election, this in pulse is gone, and these societies cease to have any appreciable beneficial effect. It may well be doubted whether in any practical serse the members realize the ideal educated gentleman any more fully than they would have done had there been no such society. On the other hand, these societies are hurtful to their members, to those not members, and to the College at large, The last point has been sufficiently elaborated in these columns already, and all that has been said on this head is only too true.

According to Thackeray's definition, the senior society man is essentially a snob, and the sentiment that makes him such is encouraged by his fellows to a point beyond the limits of absurdity, and becomes a source of constant annoyance and irritation to those without the Tois spirit of snobbery breeds toadyism in underclassmen, and tends to paralyze independence and to prevent the development of true marliness. It makes invidious distinctions, It is undemocratic. It creates an aristocracy in what should be a republic. The Faculty and Corporation, almost to a man, are members of these societies, and are so biassed by their fraternal feeling that, in the distribution of honors, they are too often led into doing injustice to those not of the elect. The time is near when these societies must be reformed, or they will irreparably injure the College. St. Louis, Nov. 24, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION :

SIR: The communications attacking the "Senior Society Evil" at Yale, which appeared in the last two numbers of the Nation, have been read with much attention here. They have started anew the old discussion as to the good or evil of the present societies, and it is with a view of opening up the other side of the question that this letter is written.

At the outset I shall make the declaration that the senior-society system is an admirable thing. These societies are an incentive to men to workan incentive the power of which cannot be appreciated by any one who has never lived beneath Yale's classic elms. From the day the freshman sets foot upon the campus to the day of the sentor elections, he has something before him to work for-a distant goal, to attain which all his best qualities and powers must be directed. It is a race for glory, fame, honor-moreover, it is a race in which all start on an equality. The poorest freshman is on a level with the wealthiest, provided he uses his powers judiciously. It is human for man to wish to appear well in the eyes of his fellows, to win their commendation and respect; and such is the end which each man of spirit bas in view who strives for election into the senior societies. It is a race in which the best men win. All that is admirable in man is brought into play to reach the desired goal. Excellence in scholarship and in literature, success as a skilful and well-trained athlete, a polite and ever gentlemanly deportment, the possession of a strong, manly character-these are the qualifications for election, these are the paths open to the undergraduate to pursue; and if one will look over the members for past years, he will find that nearly all shone under one or more of these heads. I say nearly all, for there will of necessity be some few men elected on petty considerations, but yet even these will be found to have been not without some merit. Ancestry and wealth bave from time to time been qualifications for election. But can the upper classes be held culpable for taking men whose fathers and grandfathers have been honored members, or for taking men for their money when they also take deserving men too poor to pay dues, and whose expenses must be met by some means or other? I reassert then that the present system is a good thing, for it induces men to work for worthy ends, it encourages them to work in directions profitable to themselves and to the College; it frowns upon excessive dissipation-in fine, it develops and brings to light the good that is in a man, and sends him forth into the world far the better for his college experience.

The writer in the last Nation on this question offers some very sensible thoughts, but he errs sadly when be draws a picture of 150 out of a class of 180 rendered non-loyal to their Alma Mater after the bestowal of the coveted elections. In the first place, there have never yet been 150 men "left" in any class. In the second place, there have never been (to make the largest estimate) more than sixty men considered as at all eligible. There is in every class a large majority of the members who never stand even the slightest chance. These include the "digs," the fast men, the indifferent men, the lazy men, the independent men, the retiring men, and the class blockheads and fools. These men, I say, make up the majority of the members of each class, The remaining members are the candidates for elections, and in no class of my own experience could they muster over fifty men. Thirty of these, then, become the happy recipients of mystic emblems, leaving twenty "soreheads" rendered disloyal (as "Graduate" puts it) to their Alma Mater by their failure of election. These, and these only, are the men who return here to

find this once dear campus without a charm for them; these are the ones who are "glad to get away from their college haunts." There is, I admit, on the part of this few a lack of patriotism toward Yale which shows itself in many ways after graduation. But the great body of the class has no such feeling of disloyalty. Any one who has been at Yale knows that he cannot hope for a senior election without some praiseworthy distinction of one sort or another. Those who do not try cannot expect to be rewarded. Poor taste indeed is it in any one of this class to raise a cry about the evils to the college of a system which bestows its honors on the deserving, and on them alone.

A secondary purpose for which this letter is written is to say a few words regarding the new senior society. The long felt need of a third ociety at Yale has been met by the enterprise and courage of members of the last and present senior classes. To found a society in the face of the prestige sustained by the old societies by virtue of time and prominent graduates is no small undertaking. But the founders feel that with proper judgment and judicious foresight the enterprise promises well. At any rate, the foundation of a third society is assured. For the past two weeks building has been under way, and a society hall will be finished during the winter. That there is room for the coming society is universally admitted. It will fill a position in college life necessary to the welfare of old Yale. It will serve as the remedy which "Graduate" calls upon the Corporation and Alumni to supply. It will unite a certain number out of each class under a common tie, and prevent the decay of undergraduate enthusiasm. In general, by enlarging the field of contest and bestowing honors upon more men, it will create a healthier, less antagonistic feeling on the part of every undergraduate. X. YALE COLLEGE.

#### TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: I am glad to see, at last, in your columns a discussion of the evils of the secret society system at Yale, for I believe that system works great detriment to the true interests of the University. The absurdities of etiquette which those societies force upon college society at large are most puerile. For example, while rooming with an editor of one of the college papers, I found in the library an old Dissenters' Hymnal of a century or two ago. I was asked to write a brief article upon the book. giving extracts. I did so, choosing, of course, such portions as most sharply contrasted the then with the now. When the article was done, the editor singled out one extract with the remark, "That cannot be published." "Why not?" said I. "We should be in trouble at once," replied he: "Skull and Bones would think it was meant as a direct insult to them." The offending extract happened to contain the innocent phrase "dead men's bones" in such connection that only a hyperasthetic vanity could have discerned a covert allusion. Yet it had to be suppressed. A lady, conversant with the circumstances, is my authority for the following. An acquaintance of hers was visiting in New Haven. At the friend's where she was stopping there called a member of "Scroll and Key." During the evening the young lady was asked to sing. Seating herself at the piano she innocently began "Gaily the troubadour," when to her astonishment she saw the gentlemanly (!) senior turn on his heel and make for the door without even the formality of an "Ex-

While we may laugh at the conceit that seeks to throw a quasi-sacred halo about social clubs of half-grown youths, by tabuing every word or phrase that the supersensitive self-conscious' ness of the adolescent devotee can by any possibility twist into an allusion to the pin he so conspicuously displays upon his necktie, there is a serious side to it as well. It was notorious ten years ago, that while the ostensible basis of election to "Bones" was scholarship, members were but too apt to choose as their successors those who had been their "heelers" in the contests of "college politics," making that which is from the first held up to the student as one of the highest college honors the reward not of merit, but of trickery. The letters you have published would seem to indicate that such an impression still obtains among the students. How far this four years' practical training in the "spoils system" has influenced the position of Yale alumni in national and State politics, would be an interesting field for inquiry: but no one who has carefully watched its effects can doubt that it lowers the tone of college morality and college honor, It is for this reason that, though my personal memories of New Haven are pleasant, and though I have influenced more than one to attend the post-graduate courses of the University, I have uniformly, when consulted, advised parents not to send their sons to Yale for their college course.

> Very respectfully yours, L. B. TUCKERMAN

CLEVELAND, O., Nov. 26, 1883.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: The letter of "Harvard Graduate," in No. 961 of the Nation, seems quite to overlook the essential difference between the society systems of Harvard and Yale. At the latter college only thirty men out of each class-that is, about one-fifth-are admitted into the societies in which membership is so highly prized. At Harvard, about a bundred and forty men, or twothirds of the class, find a place in one of the three mutually exclusive societies. There is doubtless toadying here, as in other parts of the civilized world; but there is no abject servility toward a few men in the senior class, for the simple reason that the so leties are too large for any control of the elections of new members by a knot or clique.

As for "secret societies," in the sense in which that term is usually applied in American colleges. they have never taken root here. There are at present three "Greek-letter societies," of which one has never had a close connection with the fraternity, one is literary, and one is moribund.

H.

CAMBRIDGE, Dec. 3, 1883.

THE DISCIPLINE OF SCIENCE STUDY. TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Allow me a word in reference to Mr. Frederick G. Bromberg's article in the issue of Nov. 15, upon the "Study of Greek." With the writer's main proposition that the true end of all culture is to "teach the future man to think," I am entirely in accord (indeed, I hold all teaching that falls below this to be not alone fruitless, but vicious); but in the demonstration of this proposition there are two points which seem to me open to criticism.

I presume I believe as fully as Mr. Bromberg in the study of language for discipline or utility; but that science cannot and does not, under proper conditions, subserve "the true end of all culture," I believe to be a mistake. "No one can do original thinking in any department of science who is incapable of making original investigations therein. Original investigations cannot be made by children." Of course no child can, at a single bound, rival the masters

in science, but every child is placed, with reference to any science, where the most brilliant investigator started—at the beginning. To make my meaning clear: A flower is given to the child. He knows nothing about it; he dissects it, noting everything that comes under his observation; with each repetition of the process new discoveries are made; and finally the child knows one plant, not from having read a description of it in some text-book, but from actual contact with it, through his senses. Or, in a similar way, he may make a study of the corresponding parts of different plants, as stem, leaf, petal, stamen, etc.

A child thus taught is an original investigator. He may not add at all to the world's knowledge of plant life, but, for himself and for the development of his own mind, he is as much an original investigator as the most profound student of modern botany. To be sure, he will make mistakes, and often fail utterly to grasp the meaning of his subject; but we have seen Virgil and Homer most horribly mutilated at the hands of classical aspirants. If, now, he be required to express his ideas of what he has learned "in appropriate language of his own," is he not taught "both to think and to express his thoughts in words "? What is true of botany is still more true of other departments of science; especially may the elements of physics and chemistry be so presented that the pupil is constantly an original investigator.

That science has not in the past held the place it deserves as a disciplinary study, and does not now hold that place, is because of the manner in which it has been presented. Lay aside all textbook cramming, and let the young pupil learn the great facts of science from a natural and objective point of view, and we shall hear of great minds whose diet has been science. If the young mind needs concrete objects for its contemplation, where will it the more readily find themin nature ever calling for investigation, or in the ο, η, τό of a Greek grammar ! And whether it will be more helpful for the practical man, in his every-day life, to be familiar with the great laws of the world around and above, or with the proper accentuation of Patroclus, seems apparent.

For those sciences which are more strictly mathematical, Mr. Bromberg would substitute language because they are too abstract and demand only "a very limited vocabulary and the use of very bald sentences." On these very grounds I would defend the study of mathematics. No one can lay any claim to a disciplined mind who has not acquired the power of abstract thought. Like the power of original investigation, this does not come at a single step; it is a long process and the result of years of toil; the child can and should make a beginning. Though the vocabulary of mathematics is limited, it is exact; and for this reason mathematics is invaluable for the young student. Nothing has more constantly to be checked than looseness in thought and expression. For developing clearness of thought, closeness of reasoning, and conciseness of expression, there is nothing like the cold logic of mathematics.

In thus arguing for science as a disciplinary study, I do not mean to decry language, ancient or modern. The fully-developed men will have both. I only claim for science due recognition. We can ill afford to sacrifice either; surely we ought not to sacrifice the living facts of science for a smattering of a dead language.

FAIR PLAY.

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# Notes.

D. APPLETON & Co. will publish shortly 'An Illustrated Guide to Mexico, for Tourists, Settlers, and Invalids, by Alfred R. Conkling; 'Anecdotes of the Civil War,' by Maj. Gen. E. D. Townsend; 'English Lyrics,' in the Parchment Series; 'The City of Success, and Other Poems,' by Henry Abbey; 'The Organs of Speech,' by George Hermann von Meyer; and 'Body and Will,' by Henry Maudsley, M.D.

Prof. Herbert Tuttle's 'History of Prussia to the Accession of Frederick the Great'; 'Characteristics,' by A. P. Russell; 'Excursions of an Evolutionist,' by John Fiske; 'A Roundabout Journey,' by Charles Dudley Warner; and 'Tennyson's "In Memoriam," A Study,' by John F. Genung, are among the immediate publications of Houghton, Mitthn & Co.

The same firm have just issued a lithographic life-size portrait, uniform with their Allantic series, of Nathaniel Hawthorne, drawn by Mr. J. E. Baker, after an English photograph. The expression is remarkably animated, free from anything morbid or sombre, and so in marked contrast to the better-known likenesses of later date. Mr. Hawthorne's family are more than pleased with this reproduction, and we have little doubt that the public will show a similar partiality for it.

Thomas Whittaker will shortly publish 'Doctrine and Duty, or Notes on the Church,' twenty-five sermons by the Rev. Geo. F. Cushman, D.D.

'Times of Charles XII.,' the third volume of Topelius's "Surgeon's Stories," is about being published by Jansen, McClurg & Co., Chicago.

The November Bibliographer (J. W. Bouton) announces that the first part of the Philological Society's English Dictionary will soon make its appearance, containing A—Ant, and covering 352 pages.

The American Institute of Instruction offers a prize of \$60 for the best essay, without regard to length, on "The New Education: its Origin, History, Principles, Methods, and Results," Essays must be sent to the Secretary, Mr. Thomas B. Stockwell, Providence, R. I., on or before April 1, 1884. The vagueness and vastness of the subject, and the smallness of the premium (which is also the purchase money of the favored MS.), do not promise great results.

James R. Osgood & Co. have issued in an attractive shape the letters of Abelard and Heloise, with an introduction by Mrs Abby Sage Richardson. She narrates the familiar story forcibly, but with so little knowledge of any thing but the bare facts as to be superficial and misleading. The letters are given in an English version of the last century. A new translation is needful if the reader of to-day is to understand their pathos and power. It is not that St. Benedict would not be recognized as St. Bennet, nor that preposterous, used literally, is now absurd; but that what was thought needful polish a hundred years ago seems only to weaken thought and feeling to a generation that prefers the vigorous directness of the Latin.

It is hard to understand why the late Prof. Amos Dean's little compendium. 'The British Constitution' (Townsend Mactoun), should be given to the public, apparently without revision, nearly twenty years after its author's death. The observations of a lawyer of high standing upon the legal features of the English Constitution will not readily lose their value, and there are many paragraphs here which we can read with pleasure and instruction; but the inadequacy of the historical part will be seen at once when it is noticed that neither Stubbs, Freeman, May, nor Bagehot, nor, we think,

Hallam, is referred to as an authority. The need of revision is further shown by the presence of such slips as (p. 70) making Charles II, brother of Charles I., and (p. 73) making the Electress Sophia daughter of James I.

Recent French translations of two American books deserve record. One is Col. Higginson's 'Life in a Black Regiment,' which appears as 'Vie Militaire dans un regiment noir' (Paris: Fischbacher: New York: F. W. Christern). The translation is the work of Mine, la Comtesse Agenor de Gasparin, who had previously rendered into French Mr. Frederick Douglass's autobiography. The other is Mark Twam's 'The Prince and the Pauper,' which appears among the first half dozen of a new "Collection des chefs-d'oeuvre des litteratures étrangères" (Paris: H. Omin et Cie., New York, F. W. Christern). It is called 'Le Prince et le Pauvre.

The great French publishing house of Firmin-Didot & Cie., having completed their magnificent edition of Sir Walter Scotts novels with new and plentiful illustrations, have now begun a companion edition of Fenimore Cooper. The first volume, 'Le Dernier des Mobicans,' is to be illustrated by M. Andrioth, and will appear at once (New York: F. W. Christern). This is additional evidence, were any needed, of the very high place Cooper has always held in the estimation of Continental crities.

The veteran French abolitionist, Victor Schoolcher, has given to the National Labrary his large and extremely valuable collection of antislavery works, containing manny rarrites, and in addition his collection of works relating to the Coup of First formed during his exile. The former, says Le Liere, is unique of its kind.

A new evidence of the rapid differentiation of science in our day is afforded by the announcement from Germany that the firm of Cotta proposes to publish a magazine to be devoted exclusively to the scientific treatment of financial questions. The new periodical is to be called Pas Finanzarchiv. The editor mehief is Professor Schanz, of the University of Wurzburg, and among his assistant editors we notice the name of Dr. E. J. James, Professor of Finance and Administration in the University of Pennsylvania.

Harper's and the Century always make a special effort in December, and their Christmas numbers this year are certainly very good. The race is pretty even, but the Century still gives evidence of being a little ahead, with Harper's pressing it close. With these two for favorites, and no field-for the other magazines can hardly be said to encroach upon their domain at allthe result will be watched with interest, no matter what it may be. Charles Reade is writing short stories for Harper's. Howells contributes a play ("The Register, a Comedy"); William Black some, "Gossip about the West Highlanders, 'Mr. Reade is unfortunately out of fashion. There was a time when the announcement of short stories from him would have been a great literary event, and a e hardly know why it is that those he is now writing attract so little notice. They are very much the same as what he used to write when 'Peg Woffington' and 'Christie Johnstone' were thought to be among the prettiest tales in the language; but they are not the same, because we have changed ourselves. We ask for more analysis and subtlety, and Reade seems bardly any longer a contemporary. He has actually become in his own lifetime a survival. Mr. Black tells some curious stories about the West Highlanders, whom he knows very well. To Americans all Scotch are alike, and rarely known at all except through the caricatures of Punch. But the Scotchman whom the Englishman ridicules is usually the Lowlander, and the Highlander is a very different creature—more amiable, childlike, and primitive—a clansman and a Celt. The illustrated articles this month are exceptionally good.

-The Century has the effect of greater luxury in the editing than any of the rival magazines. Without undertaking to express a technical opinion as to its illustrations, or other details, it is certainly safe to say that the wayfaring magazine reader feels as if its subscribers must be marching along in the foremost files of time, so far as magazine literature is concerned. The object of an illustrated magazine is chiefly entertainment, and entertaining the Century always is. Its frontispiece this month is a striking picture of the late Peter Cooper, reinforced by some "recollections," by Susan N. Carter, who dwells with perhaps needless iteration on his benevolence-a quality which, in a philantbropist, may to a certain extent be taken for granted. Literature is represented chiefly by the concluding instalment of Mr. James's clever "Impressions of a Cousin," a sketch of life in New York which shows his usual ingenuity. It contains an excellent picture of a familiar New York character-the defaulting trustee-accompanied by another of a much more uncommon type, namely, the good brother who saves the defaulting trustee from ruin and exposure by the sacrifice of his own property. Mr. Robert Grant has added himself to the lengthening list of American novelists (bis "Frivolous Girl" could hardly be called a novel), contributing the opening chapters of "An Average Man." It would be worth the while of some one with a fondness for statistics to make out a list of American novelists. It is hard to recall any large number of the younger generation of literary men-or women-who are not writing a serial. The capacity to write a novel of some sort seems to be very widely distributed, but, of course, this makes it all the more difficult to attain eminent success in it. The production of plays is a matter of far greater difficulty.

-In the December Atlantic, Mr. R. G. White discusses "Some Alleged Americanisms" in an entertaining manner. The subject is an old one with him, and the view which be holds with regard to it has become, partly through his efforts, a very generally accepted one. Nevertheless, we think we may point out an aspect of the matter which he now and then overlooks, and which accounts for the curious fact that English people of education continually talk and write about "Americanisms" which Americans declare to be nothing more por less than English. "To stamp a word or a phrase as an Americanism, it is necessary to show that (1) it is of so-called 'American' origin-that is, that it first came into use in the United States of North America; or that (2) it has been adopted in those States from some language other than English, or has been kept in use there while it has wholly passed out of use in England"-points which, as Mr. White says, are very difficult of sufficient proof. But in a multitude of cases, unless we are greatly mistaken. English writers. when they talk about Americanisms, mean something different from all of this. For instance, he refers to an English critical review of high standing, which, in discussing Walt Whitman's prose, speaks of "scooted" and "out of kilter" as "American slang." Now "scoot" and "kilter" he shows to be English words, or provincialisms; consequently, he says, they cannot properly be regarded as American slang. Notwith-tanding which, we venture to assert that if Mr. White were wandering in far Cathay, or on the banks of the White Nile, and should there fail in with a total tranger, who should suggest that as things in that part of the world were rather out of kilter' they had both better just scoot, he would, without hesitation, pronounce his new acquaintance an American. What would make him so sure? Because he would expect from a casual English acquaintance phrases entirely different. Without going into the matter too minutely or curiously. Mr. White seems to overlook, at times, the fact that a mere difference in use may give a word or phrase, for the time being, a sufficiently distinct American character to justify its being called an Americanism, or at any rate to prevent the calling it an Americanism being such utter folly as it seems to him. When we talk about the current use of language, we certainly get upon very debatable ground. Another striking article is an account by Mr. Emerson of Mary Moody Emerson, his aunt, and her religious eccentricities.

-" Doctor and Count Mattei" is the title of an article in Lippincott's by Marie L. Thompson, on the great Bolognese "electro-homoeopath," Count Cesare Matter, and incidentally on the trade of the old-fashioned charlatan, as it is still plied in Italy. The Count, it should be understood, is the originator of a system of medicine which is something quite different from medicine as ordinarily practised by any known school. The principle of electro-homoeopathy (which should not be confounded with that of homeopathy) was, it seems, discovered twenty years ago by him, but, as so often happens, most of the people who have occupied themselves with it, instead of being withing to see that it is "the greatest boon which God has yet sent upon earth," and consequently ought to have been "widely diffused by all who had the sentiment of duty and honor," bave simply looked into it "for the purpose of falsifying it." This makes it the less surprising that, as the Count's 'Guide Pratique' says, all the books hitherto written on electro-homoeopathy have been written in ignorance. The simple fact is that the Count's medicines, manufactured by himself, and which he declares have hitherto "defied analysis," restore a patient to health by "renewing the normal action of the diseased organs." This certainly seems to be what medicine ought to do, but then it must not be forgetten that in treating a sick person withelectro - homoeopathic remedies it is necessary to know whether he is of a sanguine, or lymphatic, or "mixed" temperament. The reason that the medicines have defied analysis is that the Count has never revealed the secret of their composition; and it is hardly necessary to say that the story that "certain medicinal herbs, or the essences of such herbs, form the base of the Mattei globules and liquids, essences which act upon the system like morphine, strychnine, etc.," is a malicious slander got up by rival physicians and druggists. Altogether, electro-homoeopathy promises well for those who know how to make use of the new science.

-The November circular of the Johns Hopkins University has just appeared. The number of students is 233, an increase of twenty-nine over last year. It is worthy of note that for the last five years the increase has been almost entirely among the graduate students. They number at present 148, more than half the entire body of students-a fact which has, as a matter of course, a strong effect upon the tone of University life. Among the States represented, Massachusetts shows its usual avidity for learning; not content with its own colleges, it sends, after Maryland, the third largest number of students to Baltimore. No other college, probably, gives a student so large a portion of an instructor: the catalogue shows that there are only five and a half men to each member of the academic staff. The principal accession to the corps of instructors this year is Dr. Paul Haupt, formerly professor of Assyriology in the University of Göttingen. He has organized classes in Hebrew, Arabic, Assyrian, Ethiopic, and Sumero-Accadian. Among the losses, actual and possible, are Dr. Sedgwick, associate in biology, who has gone to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Dr. Hastings, who has just received the appointment to the chair of physics in the Sheffield Scientific School. The circular gives official information of the resignation of Professor Sylvester, who has beld the chair of mathematics from the opening of the University, and who has been a chief element of its fame. His lectures during the present half year are on Multiple Algebra, a subject which is almost entirely his own creation, and in regard to which he says: "To me it seems that this vast new science of multiple quantity soars as high above ordinary or quaternion algebra as the 'Mécanique Céleste' above the 'Dynamics of a Particle' or a pair of particles." The students of the University and a small portion of the general public have had this year the rare privilege of listening to a short course of informal but most eloquent and impressive lectures on history and politics by Professor von Holst; and more recently have enjoyed the no less enviable opportunity of hearing Professor Bryce on Roman Legal His-

-Mr. D D. Lloyd, the Washington correspondent of the Tribune, has written or, it would be more correct to say, compiled a play, which was first produced last week in that city. With the exception of the leading character, the parts are the stereotyped figures with which many generations have been more or less amused: the scenes consist of the most threadbare of situations and the clumsiest of stage contrivances: the dialogue is hardly more connected, or original, or artistic than the anecdote column of a country weekly-that of one scene, in fact, being bodily lifted from one of Mark Twain's 'Sketches,' while another is boldly borrowed from "In Paradise." To complete the defects of the play, as presented, the acting, with the exception of the leading part, was uniformly bad-not merely crude and awkward, but often coarse. In spite of all this the play seems to be a success: the theatre is filled, the President bonors it by attending it, members of the Cabinet and "retired statesmen" like Mr. Blaine sit through it with, apparently, great enjoyment. It is true, doubtless, that had not the part of "General" Limber, the politician, been acted by J. T. Raymond, no one would have gone to see it, but even a first-rate actor cannot make a success of a play unless it has something which appeals to popular sympathy. To this sympathy was primarily due the success of the same actor's Colonel Sellers; but "The Gilded Age" was not only a far better play, from both a literary and a theatrical point of view, but there was much originality and attractiveness in the Colonel's character as a person, aside from his representing the type of optimistic speculator, which we are all said to be in embryo, and in which we paturally take a hearty interest. But not even Mr. Raymond can give a personal interest to the hero of "For Congress," who is a mere bundle of attributes-the "stock Congressman of the writers of fiction," minus the interest which belongs to the latter as one of several characters who collectively work out the story. He is a mere country politician of the lowest rank, the puller of the most obvious and familiar wires, the mouthpiece of the most backneved noble sentiments, familiarity with which, as political devices, has destroyed in him even the consciousness of their incongruity. His cynicism, indeed, is so open as to be without humor

while the best touch of nature in Colonel Sellers was his childlike confidence not only in himself, but in his schemes,

-It is, therefore, sympathy of a different kind which connects actor and audience in "For Congress." It is not to what they are, but merely to what they have seen or heard, that the actor's successful appeal is made. We might dwell upon the moral, implied in this statement, that politics must indeed be in a bad way when goodnatured contempt for the political class is so universal as to make such representations acceptable. We prefer to remark upon their picturesqueness, without which mere truthfulness would fall far short of success. The politician (in the East, at least) is far more familiar than the speculator, and, judged by the standard of the plays and novels commonly presented to us, he is as original as the red Indian ever was. Mr. Henry James has told us that the difficulties, usually insuperable, of the American novelist are owing to the absence of social distinctions, without which are impossible light and shade. Mere wealth does not appeal to the imagination, and is therefore useless to the novelist. But the politicians form a "class" whose literary merits are only beginning to be appreciated. Though their eminence is usually self-created, it is undisputed, and the feeling of the public with regard to them is, not like, certainly, but perhaps analogous to, that felt by the European middle class for those of whose nominal superiority they are at once conscious and re-

-The Deutsche Rundschau for the present month begins the publication of "Ivan Turgeneff's Recollections of Life and Literature.' Those to whom French is easier reading will derive much gratification from two articles in the November Livre-" Ivan Tourguéneff raconté par lui-même," by Michael Ashkinasi, and a further discourse about the same genius, apparently (to judge by the initials) from the same pen, under the rubric of Foreign Correspondence. In the latter so-called "biographical study" we are treated to an almost entire translation of the appreciative and discerning estimate passed by Bielinski on the rising novelist in 1848. One sentence from this critique is as follows: "The principal trait of his talent is his inability to create a character that he has not met with in real life." Turgeneff himself confirms this in a sentence quoted by Mr. Ashkinasi from his 'Recollections ': "I must confess that I have never tried to create a character unless based, not on an idea, but upon a living person"-for example, Basarof in 'Fathers and Sons.' Bielinski did not overlook, either, "the art with which Turgeneff paints the scenery of our country. He has an artist's love of nature, depicting it not exclusively in its poetic aspects, but just as he sees it. His paintings are always truthful, and you will always recognize our dear Russian nature." Ashkinasi, reminding us that Turgeneff was a man of gradation, not of revolution, hazards the conjecture that some posthumous work may be discovered, in which it will appear that be could paint the "veritable Russian revolutionist" of to day, though he avoided doing so during his lifetime. His descriptions of the personal appearance of Pushkin and Gogol, his experience with the censorshipone K. changing the phrase " This young girl was a flower" into "This young lady resembled a splendid rose "-his love affair with a young English woman, broken off by a nameless "accident très-vulgaire et très-grotesque" in a boat excursion on an Italian lake, his indignation at Russian Jew-baiting, his resentment against foreign traducers of his native land-such are some of the topics touched upon more or less fully by his admirer. Add to all this a most interesting etched portrait of the sad-eyed author of 'Virgin Soil.'

-Some forty years ago, Johanna Schopenhauer, mother of the philosopher, published the charming reminiscences of her youth which, gracefully abridged by Mrs. Austin, formed the most interesting chapter of her volume on 'German Society.' The time and scene of the reminiscences are the last quarter of the 18th century in Danzig-then as picturesque socially as it was (and is) architecturally. One of the incidents related by Mrs. Schopenhauer is how, as a little girl, she was one day playing in the house of an old lady, Mrs. Chodowiecki by name, when a great disturbance arose, caused by the sudden arrival of the old lady's only son. The boy had left Danzig thirty years before, with nothing in his pocket but his talents. and not much hope of turning these to advantage. But fortune favored him, and he became a prosperous portrait-painter and book-illustrator. In 1773, he made the above-mentioned visit to his mother, during which he kept, both with pen and pencil, a daily record of all that happened within his vision. At his death, his sketch-book passed into the possession of the Berlin Academy, from whose archives it was recently disinterred by the director of the institution. Chodowiecki sketched everything, beginning with the farewell to his family; and his sketch-book, as published, is said to be unique in its faithful portraiture of manners and customs. Pictures of ostensibly the same character were previously known, but they occur chiefly as illustrations of the absurdly artificial and conventional fictions of the time, the illustrations of which, had they depicted real life, would not only have burlesqued the text, but would have shocked the sensibilities of the romantic readers of the day as much as Trollope's realism shocks Mr. Julian Hawthorne. Historically, the sketches are more valuable than works of genius, such as Hogarth's, since no arrière pensée is involved in them-to intention to point a moral or adorn a tale.

-The sixteenth volume of the Encyclopædia Britannica (Little, Brown & Co., is preeminently devoted to scientific and technical subjects. The articles "Mineralogy," by Professor Hed dle, "Meteorology," by A. Buchan and Balfour Stewart, and "Moliusca," by Kay Lankester, are, in reality, extensive books. Next to these must be mentioned "Mensuration" (Professor Thomson), "Metallurgy" (Dittmar), "Micrometer" (Dr. Gilli, "Microscope" (Dr. Carpenter), "Mining," "Mint," "Melecule," and "Morphology." Some of these treatises are richly illustrated. The most conspicuous contributions to philosophy, theology, and Bibbcal science are by Professor Caird (" Metaphysics," a very extensive treatise). Rev. Dr. Rigg ("Methodism"), Dr. Harnack ("Millennium"), Prof. Robertson Smith " Messiah," " Micah," etc. |. Rev. Dr. Littledale ("Monachism"), and Wellbausen ("Moab," "Moses"). The last named also contributes an essay on Mohammed, while one of his few rivals as a Biblical and Oriental critic, Nöldeke, treats of the Koran and the Moaliakat. Schiller-Szinessy's articles on the Mishnah and Midrash are crammed full of bibliographical details and lexicographical remarks, and, therefore, almost unreadable. Wellbausen's "Moses" contains some interesting special points, but appears to us inadequate even as a surplement to his great article "I-rnel." Nor is "Monb" full enough, considering that there is no separate notice of Mesha and his stone). That there is no entry whatever under the latter name is characteristic of the peculiar economy of this Encyclopædia,

which in the present volume also omits to furnish any reference or statement to readers who look for information on Miriam, Messalina, or Miaulis; on the island or the Venus of Mile. or on any of the sultans called Mohammed. The sultans will, of course, in due time easily be discovered under "Ottoman Empire" or "Turkey," though undoubtedly not with the necessary biographical particulars, as distinguished from the historical; but Miriam is mentioned neither under "Moses" nor under Israel," Miaulis is barely alluded to under "Greece," and why is the average reader presupposed to know that Messalina was the wife of the Emperor Claudius, in the notice of whom he may read about her, or that the island of Milo is described under "Melos"! That Mendizabal, Messala, and Mittermater do not appear among the biographical notices, nor Men don, Michoacan, and Minhoamong the geographical, is, perhaps, less surprising. Among the more interesting lives are those of Mencius by Professor Legge, Felix Mendelssonn, Metter nich, Michelangelo (Colvin), John Stuart Mill (Minto), Milton (Masson, 18 pages), and Montes quieu (Saintsbury). Of the articles combining description and history the most important are "Mesopotamia 'dby Sorm), "Mexico," "Meugols," "Montenegro," and "Morecco," In all these the more recent history is defective. The late history of Mexico is especially remarkable for its skeleton like meagreness. The invasion of 1861 and the war of the following six years are told in ten lines, in which there is no men tion of Forey or Bazaine, Diar or Escabedo, Miramon or Zuloaga, or of the siege of Puebla. The geography of the United States is represented by descriptions and very handsome maps of Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, and Missouri. The most valuable maps in this volume are those of Mexico and Morocco,

#### SEELEY'S EXPANSION OF ENGLAND.

The Expansion of England. Two courses of lectures by J. R. Seeley, M.A., Regius Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge. London: Macmillan & Co.; Boston: Roberts Bros. 1883.

This singularly thoughful and suggestive book abundantly accounts for the interest in historical inquiry which the author has succeeded in kindling among the students of the University at which he lectures upon Modern History. His resolve, indeed, to be independent, to look at history exclusively from his own point of view, is, perhaps, pushed to excess, It causes him to be a little too disdamful of the labors of his predecessors in the same field, and in the result he seems to us to do less than justice to their manner and method of writing history, and, perhaps, to exaggerate the importance of the new views set forth in the volume before us. At the same time there can be no question that their importance is great; that by means of these lectures a novel light is thrown upon the tangled records of English history during the eighteenth century.

The title of the book explains its object. It sketches the enormous territorial expansion of England during the eighteenth century. Having regard to this expansion, Professor Seeley is of opinion that the interest of English history ought to "deepen steadily to the close," but actually, as it has hitherto been written, thereverse of this is the case. "English history, as it is popularly related, not only has no distinct end, but leaves off in such a gradual manner, growing feebler and feebler, dufler and dufler, towards the close, that one might suppose that England, instead of steadily gaining in

strength, had been for a century or two dying of mere old age." The eighteenth century, beyond all others, has left only

"a faint and confused impression upon the na" tional memory. In a great part of it we see nothing but stagnation. The wars seem to lead to nothing, and we do not perceive the working of any new political ideas. That time seems to have created little, so that we can only think of it as prosperous, but not as memorable.

But what we chiefly miss is unity. In France, but what we chiefly miss is unity. In France, the corresponding period has just as little greatness, but it has unity; it is intelligible; we can describe it in one word as the age of the approach of the Revolution. But what is the English eighteenth century, and what has come of it."

The cause of this lack of interest and unity Professor Seeley finds in what he considers a radically false conception of the manner in which history ought to be written. Historians treating of the eighteenth century, for example, have devoted themselves almost exclusively to the task of reproducing the age, and the men and women who lived in it, and the events which happened, precisely as the newspapers of the day looked at and wrote about them. The consequence has been that Parliamentary wrangles, the fall of one ministry, the taking of office by another, and other trifles of this kind have been thrust into the foreground of the picture which ought to be occupied by the story of "The Expansion of England." This expansion, Professor Seeley complains, has barely been regarded as belonging to the history of England properly so called. "Colonial affairs and Indian affairs are usually pushed a little on one side by historians. They are relegated to supplementary chapters. It seems to be assumed that affairs which are remote from England cannot deserve a leading place in a history of England, as if the England of which histories are written were the island so called, and not the political union, named after the island, which is quite capable of expanding so as to cover half the globe." The consequence is that the one fact of transcendant importance-namely, the expansion of England -which all through the eighteenth century was steadily growing to completion, being omitted from the main record of events as without any special significance, what remains to be told is merely details, chronologically arranged, but having no other principle of cobesion.

This expansion took the shape of a struggle between England and France for the mastery in the New World and in India. "The New World, in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, does not lie outside Europe, but exists inside it as a principle of unlimited political change. Instead of being an isolated region in which history is not yet interested, it is a present influence of the utmost importance, to which the historian must be continually alive; an influence which, for a long time, rivalled the Reformation, and from the beginning of the eighteenth century surpassed the Reformation in its effect upon the politics of the European states." So, also, was it in India. The trade rivalries of French and English mercantile companies steadily grew in magnitude and importance until they became a contest in which the two nations became involved as principals, and "probably the great Mahratta war of 1803 seemed to Lord Wellesley to be a part of the war with France; and probably Arthur Wellesley believed that at Assaye and Argaum he struck at the same enemy as afterwards at Salamanca and Waterloo.

The singular indifference to the expansion of England, on the part both of historians and the nation at large, Mr. Seeley attributes to a misunderstanding of the cause which led to the revolt and independence of the United States. This cause is supposed to be involved, so to speak, in

the very nature of a distant dependency, and certain, therefore, to operate at some time or other. Sooner or later, this or that English colony will pass from the age of infancy to that of manhood, and as soon as it feels itself capable of standing alone, it will declare itself independent of the parent state. Colonies are not, therefore, an integral part of the British state or the British nation. They are only attached to it for so long as such attachment is convenient and profitable to themselves. Against this conception of the colonial relation Professor Seeley protests with much emphasis. He brands those who hold it as "pessimists." He considers that it is based upon a mistaken analogy, and that the experience of the modern world demonstrates that a vast empire is under no inherent necessity to fall to pieces simply because it is immensely large. It was the old "colonial system" which drove the American colonies into revolt, and, that system having now disappeared, there is no reason to suppose that the colonies which England possesses at present will be driven to act upon that precedent. On the other hand, the existence of the United States and the Russian Empire demonstrates that the problem which the "pessimists" say can be solved only in one way has practically been solved in the opposite way. Here we have two instances of indefinite territorial expansion without loss of unity and cohe-

"It is curious," writes Professor Seeley, "that the pessimists among ourselves should generally have been admirers of the United States, and yet there we have the most striking example of confident and successful expansion. Those colonists which, when they parted from us, did but fringe the Atlautic sea-board, and had but lately begun to push their settlements into the valley of the Onio, how steadily, how boundlessly, and with what steadfast self-reliance have they advanced since! They have covered with their States or Territories, first the mighty Mississippi Valley, next the Rocky Mountains, and lastly the Pacific Coast. They have made no difficulty of absorbing all this territory; it has not shaken their political system. And yet they have never said, as among us even those who are not pessimists say of the colonies, that if they wish to secede, of course they can do so, on the contrary, they have firmly denied this right, and to maintain the unity of their vast state have sacrificed blood and treasure in unexampled profusion. They firmly refused to allow their Union to be broken up, or to listen to the argument that a state is none the better for being very large."

The Russian Empire also is held up for the confusion and refutation of the "pessimist."

"As soon as it is proved by the examples of the United States and Russia that political union over vast areas has begun to be possible, so soon Greater Britain starts up not only a reality, but a robust reality. It will belong to the stronger class of political unions. If it will not bestronger than the United States, we may say with confidence that it will be far stronger than the great conglomeration of Slavs, Germans, Turcomans, and Armenians, of Greek Christians, Catholics, Protestants, Mussulmans, and Buddhists, which we call Russia."

Professor Seeley, conscious that the pessimistic manner of regarding distant colonies is due largely to a bad habit, conjures his countrymen to abandon this bad habit for a most excellent way. Emigration on any large scale to the colonies is frequently deprecated on the ground that England would thereby be "deprived" of the best and hardiest part of its population, whereas their colonies ought to be regarded by all good and patriotic Englishmen as "simple extensions of the English state and nation over new territory." There is no fear, so long as they are not exploited for the selfish advantage of the parent state, that the colonies will, of their own motion, cut themselves adrift.

"The emigrant who goes out merely to make his fortune may possibly in time forget his native land; but he is not likely to do so. Absence endears it to him, distance idealizes it; he desires to return to it when his money is made; he would gladly be buried in it. There is scarcely more than one thing that can break this spell, and that is religion. Religion, indeed, may turn emigration into exodus. Those who leave Troy carrying their gods with them can resist, no doubt, the yearning that draws them back; they can build with confidence their Lawinium or their Alba, or even their Rome, in the new territory unhallowed before. For I always hold that religion is the great state-building principle. These colonists could create a new state because they were already a church, since the church so at least I nold) is the soul of the state. Where there is a church a state grows up in time; but if you find a state which is not also in some sense a church, you find a state which is not long for this world. . . But what is to be found similar to this in our present colonies? They have not spring out of any religious exodus. Their founders carried no gods with them. On the contrary, they go out into the wilderness of mere materialism, into territories where as yet there is nothing consecrated, nothing ideal. Where can their gods be but at home! If they, in such circumstances, can find within them the courage to stand out as state-builders, if they can have the heart to sever themselves from English history, from all traditions and memories of the island where their fathers lived for a thousand years, it will indeed be necessary to think that England is a name wnich possesses sadiy little attractive power."

This is written in truly choice and felicitous English; it is a pleasure to read, and it lingers in the memory like a strain of delightful music. But it betrays a curious confusion of thought, It identifies the capacity to found an independent state with the desire to attempt it. The American colonies did not revolt because they had gone out from the parent state carrying their gods with them, but because the English Parliament insisted upon taxing them without their consent. And, similarly, if the British colonies of to-day find that their connection with England is either financially burdensome or politically dangerous, they will certainly not be hindered from asserting their independence by the reflection that a state without a church is not long for this world. The very fact that they have gone out into "the wilderness of mere materialism" for the purpose of becoming rich, will aid to make aught which interferes with that purpose altogether intolerable. Apart, however, from this consideration, it strikes us as strange that Professor Seeley should cite either Russia or ourselves as examples of states which have solved the problem of holding together such an empire as that of Great Britain. The Russian Empire, indeed, at the present stage of its existence, cannot be said to have solved any problem of government except, perhaps, the problem of how not to do a thing, and the United States have not been called upon to hold a heterogeneous empire together in the face of that great divider of men, the sea-and how potent an element of division the sea is, is obvious if we compare the relations between England and Ireland with those between England and Scotland.

Professor Seeley attempts to meet this difficulty by saying that modern mechanical inventions have, so to speak, thrown a bridge across the broadest seas, making that close at hand which half a century ago was distant by half the length of the year. But the sea is not a divider in proportion to the number of leagues which separate one country from another, but inasmuch as it, and it alone, creates in the countries thus divided interests and needs which are independent of each other. The United States, notwithstanding their vast extent, are so related to each other geographically that no one of them could be assailed by an enemy without the material interests of all being immediately affected. The circumstances of the British Empire are altogether different. The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland belongs to a political system towards which the English settlers in Australia, New Zealand, or the Cape stand in no relation. The Indian Empire, again, is exclusively a British interest. Almost the entire foreign policy of Great Britain is regulated by the real or supposed necessities of its Indian Empire. If it should engage in a war with any European Power, it is India that would be the efficient cause of the war. The British colonies would have no voice in either the declaration or the averting of such a war; their own material interests would be in no way concerned in it; but as portions of the British Empire they would, to no inconsiderable extent, be compelled to participate in its dangers and burdens, The mechanical inventions which have bridged the ocean would make such liabilities of a far more menacing character than they bore a century ago. Their commerce would be liable to be swept away by the enemy's cruisers, and their seaports bombarded and pillaged by the enemy's ships of war. It is surely a reasonable conclusion of the pessimist to anticipate that if the choice lie between the endurance of such inconveniences and the setting up in life for themselves, the British colonies will choose the latter alternative.

Professor Seeley shrinks from this prospect because he fears that when she is shorn of her colonies and India, Great Britain will sink to the level of such states as Holland and Spain, whose history is, as it were, wound up, and which have only the memory of a great past to live upon. But to think thus, it seems to us, is to fall into that very mood of pessimism against which he is elsewhere so careful to warn bis renders, Spain's history is not wound up because she has lost her American colonies, but because the genius and the energy of her people have been withered under the combined influence of persistent misgovernment and religious superstition. Great Britain nur tures her colonies it to strength, so far as that can be done, by feeding them with emigrants. but she derives no strength in return; and unless her colonies take to maintaining standing armies and iron-clad navies for the purpose of coming to the assistance of the mother country in the hour of her need, it is difficult to see of what service they could ever be to Great Britain. Englishmen hold their own among the nations of the world by reason of their own inherent strength and morai and intellectual capacities, and all these would remain unimpaired if her colonies were simultaneously to repudiate their allegiance to Queen Victoria. To us it certainly appears that Great Britain and her colonies will both benefit greatly when the slender tie which still binds them together is severed. So long as that tie remains, the most populous and flourishing colony will not be able to develop those higher moral qualities which come from the dignity and responsibilities of independence; and Great Britain will herself be burdened with cares, and distracted with fears, which divert her attention from the growing wants of her population at home.

The second course of Professor Seeley's lectures is taken up with an investigation of the causes which led to the growth of British power in India. This investigation is remarkable for the same freshness of view and independence of judgment which are to be found in the earlier course, but also, it appears to us, for a curious unwillingness to contemplate the darker aspects of that marvellous history. The truth is that Professor Seeley, notwithstanding his exhortations to study history in a scientific and dispassionate spirit, is himself partially enthralled by a prejudice in favor of large empires. He does not like to think that the day will ever

come when the British Empire will extend over a fewer number of square miles than the United States or the Empire of Russia; and, under the influence of this feeling, he has been unconsciously led to emphasize unduly all that tells in favor of unity, and to throw into the background the facts and forces which tell against it-

Scotland in Pagan Times: The Rhind Lectures in Archeology for 1881. By Joseph Anderson, LL.D. Edonburgh: David Douglas, 1883, Svo, pp. 314, with 265 illustrations.

This book, consisting of a series of lectures delivered under the auspices of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, is the second instalment in a course of prehistoric research of which Scotland in Early Christian Times' was the first. Ostensibly it refers to the epoch or phase of civilization that lies between the close of the Bronze Age and the introduction of Christianity, but in point of fact it only covers the latter portion of that time. Roughly speaking, this whole period, so far as Scotland is concerned, may be defined as beginning some two or three hundred years B. C., and reaching down to the ninth or tenth century of our era, though, like all such efforts, this attempt to assign fixed dates to archaeological epochs is, necessarily, vague and elastic. In the present instance, however, it is rendered less uncertain by the fact that our author evidently intended to make his definition broad enough to include not only the time of the Roman occupation, but also that of the Vikings, and thus to bring it down to a period long after the Gospel was first preached on lona. Of course, during much of this time Christian convert and pagan devotee must have lived together in Scotland as contemporaries if not as neighbors, and hence the difficulty of drawing a hard and fast line between their arts and their industries. To obviate this difficulty. our author classifies the relics that have come down to us, according to the burial customs that are supposed to have characterized the two forms of religion-ascribing all those interments that show signs of cremation, or in which are found articles intended either for use or ornament, to a pagan origin; while those in which there are no such deposits of grave goods, or in which the articles found have an evident connection with the new faith, are assumed to belong to the Christian period.

This is, no doubt, a sweeping generalization, in view of the fact that weapons and other insignia of office are still occasionally buried with military and ecclesiastical dignitaries; but under the circumstances it is, perhaps, as satisfactory a basis for classification as any that could have been devised. At all events, it is decisive as to a class of burials containing articles which belong unmistakably to the pagan times of Scandinavia, or which, differing from these in form and ornamentation, are yet possessed of characteristics, or were found under conditions, that can only be referred to the same time and people. So, also, and for the same reason, it is believed to be conclusive as to certain groups of relics, in stone and metal, which "present in their forms and their decorations features which we have learned to recognize as belonging to the school" termed "Celtic," and which is said to have been "the precursor and parent of the greater school of Celtic art of Christian times." Reduced to plain English, these are but other ways of saying that an article, made and used by a people who had never felt the influence of Christian civilization, must have been of pagan origin; and this of course is a truism and decisive so far as it can be made to apply to any given specimen. But while cheerfully conceding this point, we must be

permitted to protest against that style of roasoning which is wont to infer a phase of civilization from the form of an implement, a style of ornamentation, or a fashion in decoration. These are stages in the progress of art, and while they must have coexisted in time and place, with certain conditions of social and of religious development, there is no necessary connection between them, and hence the presence of the one is not, of itself, decisive as to the existence of the other. Indeed, the facilities of intercourse, even between barbaric tribes, are and always must have been so great, the survi vals and revivals in art so frequent, as to make it unsafe to say of any style of ornamentation and, a fortiori, of any mere fashion in decoration, that it is characteristic of any particular "prov ince," or that it belongs to any particular period in time or poase, of civilization, For this reason, then, we must decline to follow our author in all that is said upon this point. That a pattern in ornamentation, as, for instance the zoomorphic, might have originated in Scandinavia, as he (p. 93) intimates, and been transplanted in pagan times to Scotland, where it continued to flourish until it reached its full development in the Christian period, is, of course. very probable; and it is also possible, as these periods were contemporaneous and the provinces conterminous, that the process may, to some ex tent, have been reversed; but if the terms Scandinavian, and Pagan and Christian or their court alents, Early and Late Celtic, when applied to art, mean distinct things, as they do when applied to a people or a religion, then it is difficult to understand how one and the same style of orna mentation can be characteristic of all three, or how it is possible to say to which one of them it properly belongs, since it is found under circumstances that lead to the belief that it was common in all.

In dealing with the architectural remains of this period-the lake dwellings, bill forts, and earth houses our author is more successful; and especially is this true of his treatment of that large class of ruins known under the local name of "brochs," or burghs. Of this group, the burgh of Moussa is the best-known representative, and with this as a type they may be briefly described as circular stone towers of dry built masoury, enclosing central areas or courts. and with their chambers stairs, and galleries ontained within the thickness of the walls. Though differing thus widely, in interior ar rangement and in the method of construction, from the tall, slender hime built towers that dot the opposite shores of Ireland, they undoubtedly owe their origin to the same cause; and if they do not represent the same phase of religious culture, they belong, chronologically, to the same period. Upon this point there is no room for doubt. The character of the articles, particularly the Samian ware found amid their ruins, shows conclusively that the people who sought shelter in them lived after the time of the Romans; and this circumstance, taken in connection with the fact that, like the towers of "ecclesiastical construction" on the coast opposite, their range is limited to the regions that were most exposed to the piratical attacks of the Vikings, would seem to be decisive as to the time and purpose for which they were built even without the confirmatory evidence of the SAPAS.

In justice to our author it must be said that in order to appreciate this work it should be studied in connection with its predecessor, and should be considered, not so much a series of oral lectures as a special treatise upon the particular period to which it refers. Regarded in this light, the details with which it is, at times too much crowded to suit our American ideas

of what a lecture ought to be, will be seen to have their uses; and the numerous and well-executed plans and engravings, which add so much to the interest and value of the work, will be found to take their proper place in illustrating the arts and architecture of a period which, however interesting, seems to have been but transitional.

A Book of Sibyls; Mrs. Barbauld, Miss Edgeworth, Mrs. Opie, Miss Austen. By Miss Thackeray, Haiper & Bros.

The four sketches which make up 'The Book of Sibyls' are only the more welcome because already known in the pages of the Corahill. The book is beautifully inscribed to Mrs. Olipbant: 'Dear Sibyl of our own, . . . as I write your name, I am grateful to know that to mine and me it is not only that of a Sibyl with deep visions, but of a friend to us all." The essays are not mere collections of facts, nor are they meant as literary criticism, but they give what is infinitely more precious than the one, and, in its way, more rare and more exquisite than the other. They seem to catch and to embody for us that subtle something which we name but do not define when we call it charm.

Miss Thackeray, by some gentle witchery, has made real and living for us the grace and the winsomeness that made these ladies so attractive to their own generation, and their memories so delightful to us. Such work is most nappily suited to her style, a style which it were needless to praise, were it not that Mr. Trollope's recent criticism will be remembered here. There is, we admit, a carelessness about her style. But there is negligence and negligence, as there are styles and styles. Many are learned from books. They are not necessarily pedantic or suff, but they have a completeness, a deliberateness, that remains even when a definite form of expression has become second nature. Others are learned from people, or rather developed from an intercourse with wise, bright men and women, that plainly must have been life-long. To this class belongs Miss Tbackeray's, and its faults are exactly the faults of conversation-the lapses, the little reversions, the repetitions. A methodical writer like Mr. Trollope cannot forgive such mistakes, but, for all that, the very carelessness gives such a style a grace all its own.

For the sketch of Miss Edgeworth, Miss Thackeray was allowed to quote from a privately-printed volume which appears not to have been known to any of her biographers. It was written by the last Mrs. Edgeworth, for the use of her children, as a record of " a friendship lasting for over fifty years" between Maria and her father's wife. For the others, the chief materials were already familiar, but the rich store of personal recollection and association which Miss Thackeray has to draw upon give vivid reality to the portraits. With her we climb the old high road to Hampstead and walk with Mrs. Barbauld. We sit at the lunch table where all but one, and he a Frenchman, know Maple Grove and Selina. We hear Lady S- describing her uncle Edgeworth: "If you had known him, you would not bave wondered at anything." Miss Thackeray remembers Mrs. Opie-"the straight-cut figure of a Quaker lady standing in the deep window of an old mansion that overlooked the Luxembourg Gardens, with all their perfume and blooming scent of lilac, and sweet echoes of children, while the quiet figure stood looking down on it all. From to a child-such an immeasurable distance." From out the lumber-room of that same house came the old brown volume of ' Popular Tales.'

The little anecdotes and allusions that occur on every page are slight and modest enough,

but as the eye catches them one after another they suggest what a painter would call a secondary color in the picture. We find that besides the portraits of the four ladies we have much that could make an autobiography of Tnackeray's daughter. It begins in childhood, when she lived "in company with a delightful host of little playmates, bright, busy, clever children: . . . simple Susan, lame Jervas, generous Ben "; and ends at that lunch table where, we may be sure, the party was of people who (to borrow her own felicitous phrase) belong to the agreeable classes. There is a beautiful suggestion of personal experience in the constant and tender recognition of the peculiar ties that may bind father and daughter. Is it true that a woman of unusual power is likely to be what is called "the father's

There are some bits of critical judgment that are well worth considering. Of Jane Austen: " In her special gift for organization she seems almost unrivalled." Of Miss Edgeworth: "One very distinctive mark of her mind is the honest candor and genuine critical faculty which is hers"; and "a power of versatility, an interest in subjects for their own sakes, not for the sakes of those who are interested in them, was essentially hers." This last, the gift of looking at things impersonally, is, we fear, but rarely possessed by women in general. "The authoresses of that day [the close of the last century] were rather literary women than creators of literature." "This simple discovery, that of reality, was one of the last to be made by women." We close with one comment on character for the sake of the contrast, which is drawn more acutely and more delicately than we have ever seen before, between the two lives possible to a woman: "Her life [Miss Edgeworth's] was now shaped and moulded in its own groove. The consideration, the variety, the difficulties of unmarried life were hers; its agreeable change, its monotony of feeling and of unselfish happiness, compared with the necessary regularity, the more personal felicity, the less liberal interests of the married."

English Style in Public Discourse: With Special Reference to the Usages of the Pulpit. By Austin Phelps, D.D. Charles Scribner's Sons. 1883. DR. PHELPS prefaces this publication of his Andover lectures on rhetoric with the statement that the chief features of the culture of theological students, when they come from the colleges to the seminary, are "a limited knowledge of English literature, a more limited acquaintance with the philosophy of language, a still more partial familiarity with the English pulpit, etc." remarks further on "the necessity of a great deal of elementary instruction" in this branch, and concludes by saying that his object will be gained if his book has any influence among such students, "to expand their English culture, and diminish the inevitable waste of their early years of professional service by helping them to begin it with a scholarly ideal." This introduction (and no one can speak with greater authority on the subject than does this experienced professor) gives an unfavorable impression of the material out of which the ranks of the clergy are recruited; but it was required in excuse of the exceedingly elementary rules of composition, old as the rhetorical art itself, which make up the substance of the teaching, although they are treated of in a vigorous and thoughtful way, very different from the petty pedagogic style of most manuals. Were this all, however, there would be no need of noticing the volume, which will easily find introduction as an educational work for its special purpose. The secular mind is more interested in the advice which this veteran of the pulpit addresses, at considerable

length and without caring where he hits, to the novices in his charge. Not to enter on the matter in detail, he insists on the importance of raising the intellectual standard of sermons, partly as an antidote to the excessive emotional tenden cies of Christianity, partly in rivalry of infide brains. He discourages all violence, whether in the form of denouncing vengeance or dogmatizing in speculative theology. He seeks to destroy the sentimental hallucinations that gather about "the sacred calling," and warns the young men that they must take their chances and win respect among educated men and influence over the people, as other gentlemen do, by good sense, good taste, and good manners. In short, the tendency of all that is said is toward more learning, seemliness, and tolerance in the profession. The striking thing in this, the sign of the times, is, that these young men are instructed, on the question of tact-the practical question how to meet a modern audience-that they should adopt an attitude very different from that which was the ideal before the new scepticism came in. Here is the voice of one of the elders within the church, counselling less rigidity, less social confidence, a more secular learning, a milder persuasion, and yet without implying the need of any revision of doctrine unless it be that of original sin. Such a change in the mode of presenting truth by the preacher indicates a much greater difference, already acknowledged, in the way in which truth is held by the disciple; it is a rearrangement, and practically a reform, of the creed itself. Men not unfrequently change their minds without knowing it at the time.

As literary work Dr. Phelps's book deserves a word more. The force he displays in thinking leads him occasionally to boldness in rhetorical statement often happy but sometimes amusing. Dr. Johnson, we fancy, would have been more startled by the following than by "Goldy's" original joke: "In his [Dr. Johnson's] conversation he was an antelope: in his books he was a whale." The author elsewhere calls the venerable Doctor's style that "of a crocodile." He betrays, too, seemingly, a prejudice against Carlyle, Emerson, and other writers of markedly original expression. The color of it is seen in the following curiously-elaborated censure of Lowell for the coining of such words as "other-worldliness": "If an orthodox minister should coin them, the author of the 'Biglow Papers' would be the first to saturize them as tokens of the barbarism of the pulpit. He knows, and the world of scholars knows, that his own scholarly reputation will bear such occasional departures from good English. somewhat as a very saintly man can bear to be seen carrying a flask of brandy in the street." With the exception of this modern liberal class of writers, literary men are sensibly estimated in point of style. We cordially commend the book to its own audience.

Curious Epitaphs. Collected from the Graveyards of Great Britain and Ireland, with Biographical, Genealogical, and Historical Notes, By William Andrews, F.R.H.S. London: Hamilton, Adams & Co. 1883.

To the manifold works which he enumerates in his tentative bibliography of epitaphian literature Mr. Andrews has made a substantial addition. Soldiers and sailors, musicians and actors, parish clerks and sextons, sportsmen, traders, printers, topers, punsters, and what not, all figure in his pages as the subjects of eccentric epitaphs, not a few of which were written by themselves. And odd indeed are many of the things which his researches, at first or at second hand, among the tombs have dragged to light. The

philologist will learn from him, though, possibly, not to his complete conviction, that there stands inscribed on the gravestone of a hawker of fish, at Preston: "Beneath this stone are deposited the remains of Richard Turner, author of the word Teetotal, as applied to abstinence from all intoxicating liquors, who departed this life on the 27th day of October, 1846, aged 56 years." Fragrant to vegetarians (however suggestive to carnivorous, ornithophagous, and other species of human kind, of the odor of frequent cabbage and onions) must be the memory of the sturdy and much enduring martyr regarding whom is to be read, in the churchvard of Uley: "Underneath lies the remains of Roger Rutter, alias Rudder, eldest son of John Rutter, of Uley, who was buried August 30, 1771, aged 84 years, having never eaten flesh, fish, or fowl during the course of his long life.' "Dump" (as "dumpling" is called in Roger Rutter's native Gloucestershire) is said to have constituted, in its varieties of "plain dump," "hard dump," with a change to "apple dump" on high days and helidays, the principal food of this man of monotonous diet. In the epitaph on Daniel Lambert, the obese, it is recorded: "He measured 3 feet 1 inch round the leg, 9 feet 4 inches round the body, and weighed 52 stones 11 lbs. (14 lb. to the stone)." The explicitness of the information given in brackets reminds one of the pious widow who, in praying for a competency, was careful to specify that what she intended was "five hundred pounds sterling per annum, in quarterly instalments, to be paid in advance, and without deduction for incometax." At Sculcoates, Hull, is an epitaph of the last century on Mrs. Jane Delamoth, described as "a poor sinner, but not without holiness." in short-hand. It is supposed to be unique of its kind. In connection with an epitaph in Warwickshire, on a young woman, Mary Ashford, who was murdered in 1817, we are told that her brother, on the acquittal of the assassin, Abraham Thornton, sued out an appeal against him. Thornton, in preference to undergoing a fresh trial, claimed the privilege of wager of battle, and challenged the brother, who, however, being unwilling to fight, was obliged formally to "cry craven." Lord Ellenborough had, with reluctance, previously acknowledged, to general amazement, that Thornton was entitled to the option which he demanded. It was not till two years later that, by an act of Parliament, the ancient legal barbarity of which Thornton had availed himself was expunged from the English statute-book. With the transcription of a graceless epitaph, A. D. 1804, on an attorney at Castleton, in the Peak of Derbyshire, who apparently hoped that wit would be discovered, by the discerning, in his posthumous impudence and irreverence, we close our notice of an entertaining little volume, which may be recommended to all who are interested in tomb stone literature:

> "Quid eram nescitis; Quid sum nescitis; Ubi abii nescitis, Valete."

Addresses, Delivered on Several Occasions by Alexander Hamilton Bullock. With a Memoir by George F. Hoar. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1883.

The preparation of this volume must have been a labor of love to Senator Hoar. One can easily gather from these speeches what a refined and elevating influence emanated from Gov. Bullock, and the affectionate relation in which he stood to the community in which he lived—qualities in which we believe American gentlemen of the best class are surpassed by those of no other nation. The addresses themselves, while not marked by very spontaneous or commanding eloquence, are

polished and cultured in tone and sentiment, reminding the reader very strongly of Edward Everett, whom, indeed, Gov. Bullock seems to have held in very high esteem. Most of the earlier parts of the volume were contemporary with and have reference to the civil war, and it is worth observing how thoroughly even a disciple of Webster and Everett, to whom the Union and peace had seemed inseparable, was stirred to uncompromising resistance. Perhaps only those who are old enough to remember those fearful days can imagine how deeply audiences were moved by such appeals, The eulogy upon Abraham Lincoln, however, seems inadequately to express a full appreciation of a character which could hardly find response in the somewhat aristocratic mind of an oldfashioned Whig. The school of Edward Everett knew but little of the brotherhood of equality with the poorest and lowliest, which was one of the distinguishing qualities of President Lincoln.

One of the most interesting addresses is that on the "Centennial Situation of Woman," delivered at Mount Holyoke Seminary in 1876, in which the position of the female sex, certainly one of the most important characteristics of this country, is strongly set forth; but that the Governor could upon occasion apply the Harvard maxim of vera pro gratis, is shown by his taking that occasion to make a strong argument against female suffrage. The "Centennial of the Massachusetts Constitution" is also of interest, especially in view of the events of the past year. It is pretty evident that that instrument will ere long become the object of something besides unmixed eulogy, and that after a century of wear it will need to be bauled up for repairs. It is a curious circumstance that though Governor Bullock was a member of the State Legislature from 1845 to 1849, was Mayor of Worcester in 1859. Speaker of the House of Representatives from 1862 to 1865, and Governor of the State in 1866. 1867, and 1868, he left no more trace upon public affairs than does the passage of a boat through water. The same is true of all the Massachusetts Governors since Andrew. It has come to be considered a gross impropriety for a candidate to urge his personal claims for office. Now, in the address on "Intellectual Leadership in America," Governor Bullock says that "the spontaneous, instinctive acknowledgment of intellectual authority, the law of faith, of confidence in a superior intelligence, is a part of the laws governing public opinion. We are all of us and always under such a lead. And the globe has not borne another people who paid greater deference to such guides than our own." And Mr. Matthew Arnold is reported to have recently said that in England it is the politicians who are the object of interest which in this country seems to be turned towards the literary men. It is safe to say, however, that in this country also eminence in politics would command the attention of ten persons where that in literature attracts one. The jealousy which suppresses the former is therefore, on Governor Bullock's showing, a violation of the first principles of human nature.

Encyklopädie der Neueren Geschichte. In Verbindung mit namhaften deutschen und ausserdeutschen Historikern herausgegeben von Wilhelm Herbst. Parts 1-16. Gotha. 1880-1883.

This work was originally calculated to embrace two large volumes, in twenty *Lieferungen*. Of the latter, however, sixteen have appeared, and they reach only as far as "Heinrich." We may hence presume that the whole will be finished in three volumes. The scope is narrowed down to

political history-literature, inventions, statistics, etc., being almost entirely excluded. The history of the leading European nations is most amply treated, and that of the Asiatic and African countries only in its relations to western politics. Biographical articles predominate; in fact, most of the history is told in biographies, the length of which ranges from half-a-dozen lines to about a dozen pages. Completeness is aimed at as to topics, but not exhaustiveness under the single titles. In some instances the collective articles are exceedingly brief, and the needed information is designedly left to be gathered almost entirely from a large number of notices treating of the separate parts of the subject. Thus, while the history of France in the last four centuries-its "modern history," in the sense of this encyclopædia-is presented in a condensed sketch comprising every reign and revolution, the history of Germany must be compounded by the reader primarily out of the contents of the articles on Baden, Bayaria, Brunswick, etc., which are very full. In other instances, the history of what is now a component part of a great state, though it was an independent whole even in modern times, is omitted under its own head. Thus the history of Brandenburg is to be told hereafter under "Prenssen." The reader is expected to comprehend the reasons of omission, a considerable amount of knowledge on his part being presupposed in general. A very lucid and elaborate introduction, however-the only contribution of the original editor, who died in December, 1882 is to serve as a clew to the whole course of events. universal and national, as here compassed. A list of twenty seven contributors quostly professors of history) to whom special parts have been assigned is a guarantee of careful execution in nearly every branch. The style is almost uniformly good, and no room is wasted.

As an addition to a large universal history, like Schlosser's, or to a good evelopedia, like Meyer's or Brockhaus's, this publication is highly valuable. Vastly superior in correctness of execution, and partly also in fulness of contents, to the corresponding portions of history in almost all collective works, it also comprises a mass of biographical details such as no connected history can find room for. But, well planned as it is as a complement to works more comprehensive in their scope, even as such it is here and there very defective. Its selection of topics is good as a rule, but unjustifiable omissions are frequent. Thus, the notices of both Abd-el-Kader and Algeria are too brief. Afghanistan appears separately only in a notice of the Afghan treaty of 1869, under "Cypern" there is no mention of the British occupation of the island, and Bulgaria is entirely forgotten. English biography is amply represented in numerous and often lengthy articles, like those on Bacon, Beaconsfield, Boungbroke, Brougham, the Buckinghams, Cromwell, Elisabeth, or Gladstone; French and Spanish historical characters are equally well remembered, and Professor Schwicker, of Buda-Pesth, does more than his share of the work in extensive and interesting notices of such Magyars as the Báthorys, Batthyányis, Bercsényi, Bethlen, Bocskay, Deák, or Eötvös; but Professor Liske, of Lemberg, leaves out such eminently historical Polish names as Czarnecki, Dwernicki, and even Chlopicki; and North American biography has been unfortunately surrendered to an historian-Professor Hertzberg, of Halle-who does excellent work on Greece and the Ottoman Empire, but has very scanty knowledge of things and men on this continent.

The history of both North and South America is very carelessly treated in this work. The article "Chile" is meagre; and while there is a

notice of Costa Rica, there is none of Bolivia or Ecuador. Colombia and the Argentine Republic are equally forgotten in the first volume, but they may possibly turn up as "Kolumbien" and "La Plata." The notices of European battles are so numerous that even the insignificant engagements of Caldineo, Courbevoie, and Chrobrz are recorded under their own heads, but no separate room has been devoted to Antietam or Chancellorsville-not to speak of Chickamauga or Fredericksburg. The last-named battle is mentioned as that of "Friedrichsburg" under "Burnside," and turned into a two days' fight; the date of Chickamauga, under "Garfield," is changed from Sept. 19-20 into "Sept. 29-30." Under the latter title the battle of Pittsburgh Landing, or Shiloh, is extended into a three days' engagement "at Pittsburgh"; Garfield himself is sketched as panegyrical obituaries described him. Less room is devoted to both Adamses than to Van Buren alone (under "Buren"); and while Aaron Burr, John Brown, and Beauregard are forgotten, a separate title inwoduces Belknap-in colors little flattering to himself or to his chief, General Grant, who is also severely criticised under his own name. Similar inconsistencies and inaccuracies are incomparably rarer in contributions referring to European subjects, and most of the incorrect dates or names which we have discovered in glancing over the pages of the book may be attributed to slips of the compositor and proof-reader. The greatest editorial slip is the giving of two articles, different in length and composition, on the bloodless war of the Bavarian succession, one entitled "Bayerischer Erbfolgekrieg," and the other "Erbfolgekrieg, Bayerischer. much more serious war of succession, the Polish, is omitted. The great general merits and usefulness of the work, however, make us easily overlook the defects we have pointed out.

Ancient Egypt in the Light of Modern Discoveries. By Prof. H. S. Osborn, LL.D. Cincinnati: Robert Clarke & Co. 1883, 16mo, pp.

THE recent discoveries in Egypt, which have materially changed the conception of its history held even ten years ago, are scattered over so many volumes that it would be almost impossible for any one but the specialist to keep himself informed of the progress of things in this department; it is therefore a praiseworthy attempt that Mr. Osborn has made to present the new material in small compass and in popular form, and in some respects he has succeeded very well. He gives clear and generally correct accounts of the probable origin of the Egyptian people, of the historical chronology, of the history, the monuments, and the social life. He has almost nothing to say of the religion, and this we must think a fault; but in the descriptive material that he introduces he is commonly clear and sensible thus, he rejects Piazzi Smith's nonsense about the pyramids, and regards them simply as tombs of the sovereigns. It is to be regretted that be has not confined himself to describing what he has seen; unfortunately, he wanders here and there into the field of historical criticism, where he is not at home. He thinks (p. 224) that the genuine Egyptian coloring of parts of Genesis and Exodus sets aside modern results as to the date of the Pentateuch; following Professor Campbell, of Montreal, he is inclined to hold (p. 201) that the book of Chronicles is "in advance of any other [in the world] except Genesis, so far as historic accuracy and history are concerned," and (p. 200) that "the list of names in the first eight chapters of 1st Chronicles contains a key to universal history." He seems to suggest (p. 217), though his language is here not clear, that the Egyptians

and the Iranians were once one people; he thinks it probable (p. 218) that "even before the First Dynasty" divine communications were made to the Egyptian kings, and that this was the origin of what he regards as the primitive Egyptian monotheism; he finds no difficulty in reconciling the Biblical date of the Flood with Egyptian history (p. 103); he narrates as history (p. 186) the story told by Herodotus of the vengeance taken by Queen Nitocris on the murderers of her brother; and he cannot refrain from dealing the doctrine of evolution a heavy blow-"one suggestion," he says (p. 221), "we might drop in passing-to the sorrow of the evolutionist: It is found in the perfectly unchanged appearance [on the monuments] in all the species, both of plants and of animals.' These critical crudities mar the usefulness of the book, and we hope that, if a second edition is called for, they will be omitted. Occasional careless and inaccurate historical statements occur: the Ethiopians are called (p. 62) a "mixed race," for which the author quotes Renouf and refers to Lenormant, but there is no ground for such a statement; the date of the Jew Philo, who went on an embassy to the Emperor Caligula, is given (p. 30) as B. C. 20. Mr Osborn puts too much trust in Lenormant, whose unproved and highly improbable assertion that the Hamitic race of Cush founded a powerful empire at Babylon, and this is a fact of great importance in tracing the migrations of the races," he quotes (p. 56) as if it were an assured fact. A minor blemish is the use of the word "transpire" (p. 43) in the sense of "occur"; and what shall we say to such a sentence as this (p. 103): "So that the agreement between the Biblical date of 1656 and the Egyptian Dynastic date, even if we take them all in such years as we now use, would fully agree, upon the sole condition of altering the date of Ussher, namely, 4004, and not altering the Biblical date of the flood whatever" !

Theory and Practice of Teaching. By the Rev. Edward Thring, Head Master of Uppingham School. The Cambridge University Press, 1883.

A FEW personal words in regard to Mr. Thring may be justified in drawing the attention of educational men in America to the last book which he has written. We have heard a distinguished Oxford professor, well known in America as in England, and who was Dr. Arnold's trusted assistant in Rugby's palmy days, say that Thring had more of Arnold's spirit in him than any schoolmaster lett in England. At the Head Masters' Conference, held at Dulwich College, in 1876, Dr. Carver, the President, referred to Mr. Thring as the real founder of the Conference, and as one who could claim the unique honor of having forced an ordinary county grammar school, within his own lifetime, into the front rank of England's great public schools. We mention these facts, which happen to be within our knowledge, merely to show that our author is a man of purpose and personal power, whose thoughts on professional questions ought to be worth reading.

In his book we have something very different from the ordinary work on education. It is full of life. It comes fresh from the busy workshop of a teacher at once practical and enthusiastic, who has evidently taken up his pen, not for the sake of writing a book, but under the compulsion of almost passionate earnestness, to give expression to his views on questions connected with the teacher's life and work. Though written largely from an English point of view and as the result of English experience, it deals with fundamental principles, and discusses questions

as interesting to American as to English teachers. The style is at times belligerent. Fighting the battle of what he believes to be educational freedom and truth, Mr. Thring hits hard blows. The reader will sometimes be compelled to qualify an exaggeration of statement, but we doubt if any true teacher will often have reason to question the solid basis of truth on which the arguments are built. He asks pregnant questions: "What, again, is the true price of a teacher in the market, and why! If the true price is not given, the further question arises whether a system which requires martyrs to work it truly, does not in the second generation get worked by cheats." Many of our readers will admit that questions such as these require an answer in America as well as in England.

In part the book is a protest-a protest against the subjection of the skilled educational workman to the unskilled theorist; of the living teacher to the dead and deadening influence of excessive state control. It can easily be imagined that a teacher who frames as his highest definition of education the "transmission of life from the living, through the living, to the living," has little faith in machine systems of education. He is inclined to jeer at the ruleof-thumb applied to this living power dealing with life. He believes that intellectual death is the only possible result that can come from making the teacher a mere machine, with his work and its worth tested and ticketed by another examining machine, which compels all that come under its control to pass through one and the same intellectual hole which it has drilled as a gauge of merit. He protests against the jealous suspicion which dogs the teacher's steps in our modern systems. "It is a strange spectacle," he says, "everywhere seen, though no one sees it—the spectacle of the nation putting their best hope, their children, under the charge of men whom they do not trust to do their work, and so put them under the charge of others." He asks that "freedom should be given and a belief in skill, and a trust that skill will in the long run know how to work best.'

Doubtless modern education has its real Scylla and Charybdis in the two aspects of the examination question. On the one side is that excess of system and supervision which kills true life and original power, and on the other is that lack of system and supervision which leaves room for the grossest quackery, imposture, and waste of means. Against the former of these dangers, as perhaps the more threatening evil of the present day, Mr. Thring raises an earnest voice of warning:

"If education and training are the true aim of mankind, and power in a man's self the prize of life, then no superstition ever ate into a healthy national organism more fatal than the cult of the examiner. Better in its degree the negro bowing down before the ghastliest feti-h, than the civilized mumbo-jumboism which thinks it can award over a whole kingdom the palm of mind. Examinations in that case are but another name for death to originality and all improvement that is original."

It is easier to admit the truth of this than to fix the exact point to which the examiner may go without becoming a bane. Our author suggests a pass examination, sufficient to discover culpable idleness or dishonest neglect. This he considers honest for the teacher and not destructive of life. The fatal point is reached when "all the varieties of living growth must be reduced to a lifeless uniformity to make them capable of being appraised by an examiner."

All that we have referred to, however, is secondary to the main purpose of the book which is to lay down for practical teachers the principles that should guide them in training (not stuffing) the young mind. For suggestiveness and clear incisive statement of the funda-

mental problems which arise in dealing with the minds of children, we know of no more useful book for any teacher who is willing to throw heart, and conscience, and honesty into his work. A few sentences taken at random may serve to illustrate the spirit in which Mr. Thring discusses the work of the schoolmaster:

"The teacher must be full of human sympathy, inwardly exhaustless in kindness and patience—willing to bear anything but refusal to be taught, and fertile in resources even for

"A dull boy's mind is a wise man's problem."

"A teacher's first maxim is: 'If the boys don't learn, it is my fault'; his comforting axiom is, 'The worse the material the greater the skill of the worker."

"Time and teaching and love—these three can alowly and surely make the eye see, and the

"Time and teaching and love—these three can slowly and surely make the eye see, and the mind inspire the eye, and be inspired in return. The slowest can begin, though the swiftest cannot end. Time, teaching, and love—these three transmute all things when life is at work. There is no incapacity which can prevent observation. And there is no inability to enjoy what observers give. . . The problem of power in a man's self is capable of no hard solution; there is no standity."

"Training means accuracy. Observation and accuracy are twins. The beginning of all true work is accurate observation; the end and crown of all true work is an accuracy which observes everything, and lets nothing escape. Observation and accuracy comprise all that it is possible for a teacher to do."

We hope we have said enough to induce some teachers in America to read Mr. Thring's book.

They will find it a mine in which they will never dig without some substantial return, either in high inspiration or sound practical advice. Many of the hints and illustrations given are of the greatest value for the ordinary routine work of the class-room. Still more helpful will the book be found in the weapons which it furnishes to the schoolmaster wherewith to guard against his greatest danger, slavery to routine.

Trees, and How to Paint Them in Water-Colors By W. H. J. Boot. With eighteen colored plates and numerous wood-engravings London and New York: Cassell & Co. 1883.

Or popular treatises on the art of painting we have rarely before seen one so good as this. While bearing at first glance a somewhat repellent appearance of kinship with the many existing superficial works on the subject, the book soon demonstrates the fact that it belongs in quite another category, and that it possesses the rare merit of stimulating observation of Nature, while it explains, about as well as words can explain, the methods by which the difficulties arising out of her complexities may be measurably conquered. Trees are among the most perplexing objects which embarrass the beginner in sketching from nature. But this author shows that it is possible, in painting them, to proceed in so orderly a way from general

proportions and tones to the more particular characteristics of form and color, that these perplexities are reduced to a minimum. Yet no illusive prospect of a royal road is held out. On the contrary, the fact that nothing but close attention and prolonged effort will insure progress is wed impressed. It is extremely difficult to convey in words any intelligible or serviceable instruction with regard to coloring, yet Mr. Boot has succeeded so well that, with the help of the colored illustrations included in the book, we think that any young person of intelligence and aptitude might learn from it to do very good work. Certainly, if coupled with faithful practice under guidance of the plates of Turner's 'Laber Studiorum,' a wurse like this could baruly fail to vield excellent results. The illustrations in chromo-lithography, though they possess the imperfections that are inseparable from work wrought by mechanical means, bear evidence of having been executed with care, and are, for such things, remarkably good-quite good enough to be very useful.

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